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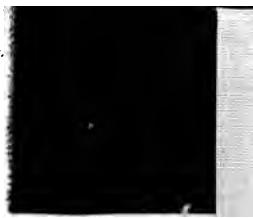
THE STORY
OF
PAINT AND CUBA



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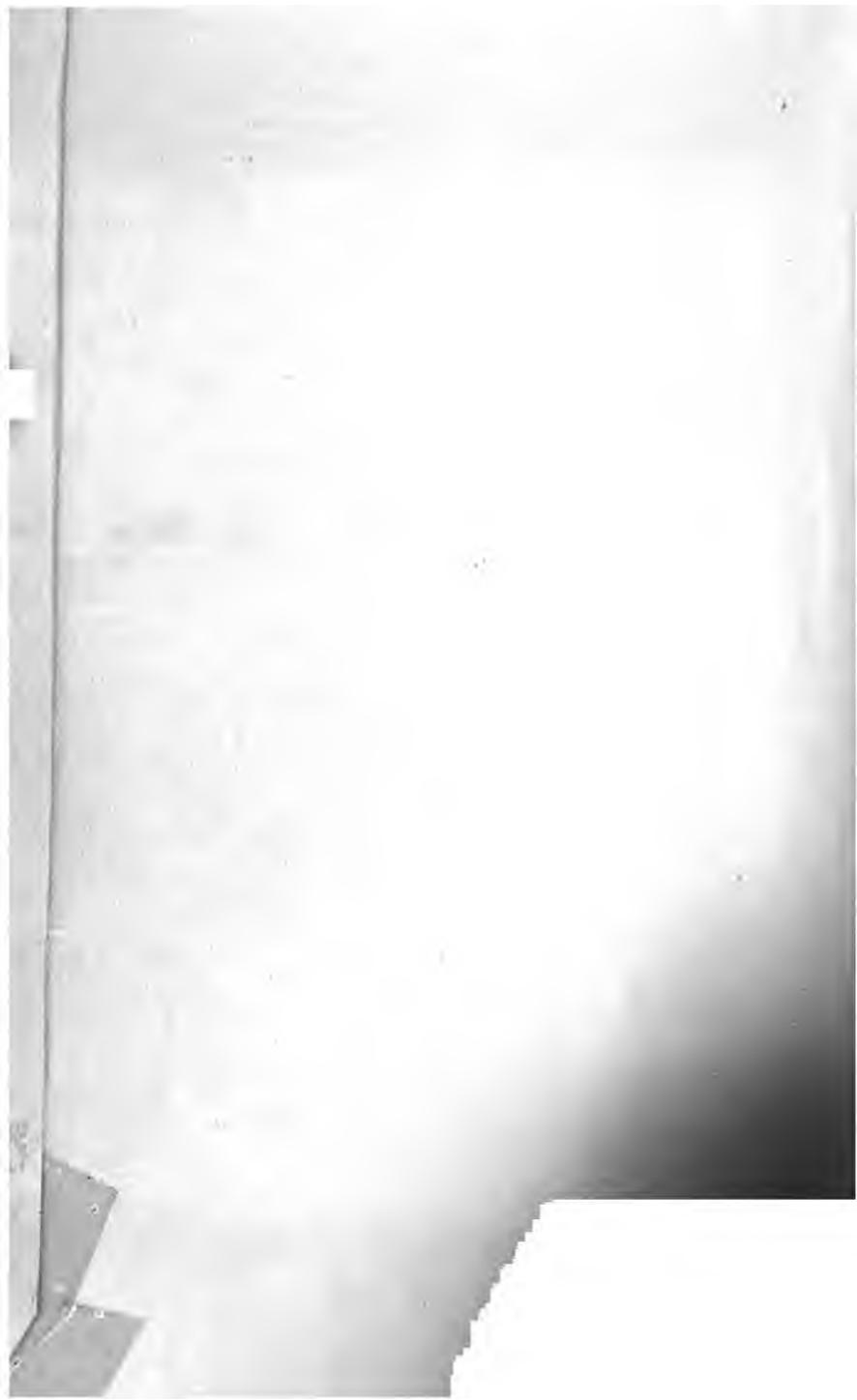


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EXCHANGED















GENERAL JOSE MACEO.

STORY
OF
SPAIN AND CUBA.

EDITED AND WRITTEN
BY
NATHAN C. GREEN.

ILLUSTRATED.

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STORY OF SPAIN AND CUBA.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

Spain occupies the larger portion of the great peninsula which forms the southwest corner of the European continent, reaching further south than any other European country, and further west than any except Portugal. It is bounded on the north by the Bay of Biscay and by France, from which it is separated by the mountain ridge of the Pyrenees; on the east and south by the Mediterranean and Atlantic, and on the west by the Atlantic and Portugal. Greatest length, from Fuenterrabia on the north to Tarifa on the south, 560 miles; greatest breadth, from Cape Finisterre (Land's End), the extreme point on the west, to Cape Creuze, the extreme point on the east, about 650 miles; average breadth about 380 miles. Area, including the Balearic and Canary Isles, 196,031 square miles; population, about 16,000,000. The country, including the Balearic and Canary Isles, was divided in 1834 into forty-nine modern provinces, though the former division,

into fourteen kingdoms, States, or provinces, is still sometimes used.

COAST-LINE.

The entire perimeter of the country is 2080 English miles, and the coast-line, exclusive of windings, is 1317 miles long, of which 712 miles are formed by the Mediterranean and 605 miles by the Atlantic. The north coast, from Fuenterrabia west to Cape Ortegal, is unbroken by any considerable indentation. A wall of rocks, varying in height from thirty to 300 feet, runs along this shore; but the water, which retains considerable depth close to the beach, is not interrupted to any unusual extent by islands or rocks. The northwest coast, from Cape Ortegal south to the mouth of the river Minho—which separates the Spanish province of Galicia from Portugal—though rock-bound, is less elevated, and is much more broken than the shores washed by the Bay of Biscay; and the indentations, the chief of which are Noya Arosa and Vigo Bays, form secure and spacious harbors. From the mouth of the Guadiana, on the south, to the Strait of Gibraltar, the coast-line, though well defined, is low, sandy and occasionally swampy. From Gibraltar to Cape Palos the shores, which are backed in part by the mountain-range of the Sierra Nevada, are rocky and high (though flats occur at intervals), are unbroken by indentations, and comprise only two harbors, those of Cartagena and

Malaga. A low, and for the most part sandy, coast extends north from Cape Palos, rising into rocky cliffs and bluffs in the vicinity of Denia, but extending in sandy flats from Denia to the mouth of the Ebro. From the mouth of this river, north to the frontier of France, the coast is alternately high and low, and its principal harbors are Barcelona and Rosas.

SURFACE AND HYDROGRAPHY.

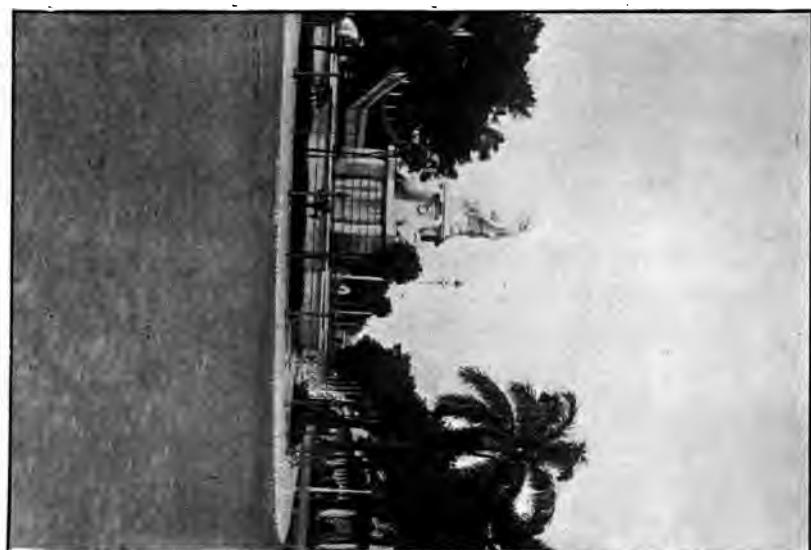
The compactness and the isolation of this country, and its position between two seas, the most famous, and commercially the most important in the world, are not more in its favor than the character of its surface, which is more diversified than that of any other country in Europe of equal extent. An immense plateau, the loftiest in the continent, occupies the central regions of Spain, and is bounded on the north and west by mountainous tracts, and on the northeast by the valley of the Ebro; on the east by tracts of land frequently low, but in some parts traversed by hill-ranges; on the south by the valley of the Guadalquivir, which intervenes between it and the Sierra Nevada. This great plateau rises to the height of from 2000 to 3000 feet, and occupies upwards of 90,000 square miles, or about half of the entire area of the country. The whole of the Pyrenean peninsula is divided by Spanish geographers into seven mountain ranges, of which the chief are:

1. The Cantabrian mountains and the Pyrenees, forming the most northern range; 2. The Sierra de Guadarrama, separating Leon and Old Castile from Extremadura and New Castile, and rising in the peak of Penalara, 7764 feet above the sea-level; 3. The Montes de Toledo, forming a part of the water-shed between the Tagus and the Guadiana; 4. The Sierra Morena, between the upper waters of the Guadiana and Guadalquivir; 5. The Sierra Nevada, running parallel with the shores of the Mediterranean, through Southern Murcia and Andalucia, and rising in its chief summits to loftier elevations than are found in any mountain system of Europe, except that of the Alps. The several mountain-ridges, or, as they are called, Cordilleras of Spain, have a general east and west direction, and between them run, in the same direction, the nearly parallel valleys or basins of the great rivers of the country, the Douro, Tagus, Guadiana and Guadalquivir.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The climate, owing to the extent and configuration of the country, is exceedingly various. In the northwest (maritime) provinces, it is damp and rainy during the greater part of the year; at Madrid, which is situated about 11° south of London, and only 5° north of the shores of Africa, winters have occurred of such severity that sentinels, while on duty, have been frozen to death;

THE INDIAN STATUE IN THE PRADO.



SCENE IN MATANZAS.





GEN. FITZHUGH LEE.

STORY OF SPAIN AND CUBA.

while the south and east provinces are warm in winter, and are exposed to burning winds from the south, and to an almost tropical heat in summer. Both ancient and modern geographers have adopted difference of climate as the rule for dividing the Peninsula into tracts distinct as well in soil and vegetation as in temperature. Of these tracts or zones the first and most northern may be considered as embracing Galicia, Asturias, the Basque Provinces, Navarre, Catalonia, and the northern districts of Old Castile and Aragon. In this tract the winters are long, and the springs and autumns rainy, while north and northeast winds blow cold from the snow-covered Pyrenees. The country, which alternates with hill and dale, is plentifully watered by streams rich in fish, and meadows yielding rich pastureage abound. Corn scarcely ripens in the more exposed districts, but grain crops of all kinds are produced in others, as well as cider, wine and valuable timber. The middle zone is formed mainly by the great central plateau, and embraces Northern Valencia, New Castile, Leon and Estremadura, with the south parts of Old Castile and Aragon. The climate of the great part of this region is pleasant only in spring and autumn. Throughout the chilly winter, the treeless table-lands are overswept by violent tempests, and in summer are burned up by the sun. The soil is generally fertile, and corn and wine are most abundantly produced. The southern or Bætican zone, comprising the rich

country that extends between the southern wall of the central plateau and the Mediterranean shores, includes Andalucia, Murcia and Southern Valencia. The stony rampart on the north protects it from the chilly winds of the central zone; but it is unprotected against the hot winds which in summer blow north from Africa, and render this season intolerable to northern Europeans. Here the winter is temperate, and the spring and autumn delightful beyond description. The descent from the cold and mountainous central regions to this tract of tropical heat and fertility affords a most striking contrast. The soil, which is artificially irrigated, is well adapted to agriculture and the cultivation of heat-loving fruits. The products comprise sugar, cotton and rice, and the orange, lemon and date.

HISTORY.

Spain, the Spانيا, Hispania and Iberia of the Greeks, and known to the Romans by the same names, was inhabited at the period at which it first receives historical mention by a people deriving their origin from different races. It is supposed to have been originally inhabited by a distinct race called Iberians, upon whom, however, a host of Celts are supposed to have descended from the Pyrenees. In the earliest times of which we have any record, these two races had already coalesced and formed the mixed nation of the Celti-

berians, who were massed chiefly in the centre of the peninsula, in the western districts of Lusitania, and on the north coasts. In the Pyrenees and along the east coast were to be found pure Iberian tribes, while unmixed Celtic tribes occupied the northwest. In Bætica (Andalucia) there was a large admixture of the Phœnician element, and on the south and east coasts, numerous Phœnician, Carthaginian, Rhodian and other colonies. A portion of the south coast, called Tartessus by the Greeks, the Tarshish of Scripture, was much frequented for its mineral riches by the Phœnician merchantmen, and the "ships of Tarshish" were as distinct a section of the Tyrian mercantile marine, as were the Spanish galleons of the sixteenth century, or our own Indiamen of more recent times. But the bond which connected the Iberians and the Phœnicians was purely of a commercial character. About the middle of the third century B. C., the Carthaginian influence began to be much felt in Iberia, and a considerable tract of territory was brought under subjection to Carthage by Hamilcar, who founded the city of Barcelona. During the next eight years, the Carthaginian interest was advanced and its power further strengthened by Hasdrubal (died 220 B. C.), son-in-law of Hamilcar, who founded Carthago Nova (the modern Cartagena), and concluded a treaty with the Romans whereby it was stipulated that he should not advance his standards north of the Iberus (Ebro). Hannibal, son of Hamil-

car, and the greatest of all the Carthaginian generals, now assumed the command in the peninsula. He attacked and destroyed Saguntum, and thus violated the treaty made between his father and the Romans. The destruction of Saguntum was the cause of the Second Punic War. After the Romans had driven the Carthaginians from the peninsula in 206 B. C., the country was erected into a Roman province, consisting of two political divisions—Hispania Citerior (Hither Spain), including the eastern and northern districts, or those nearest to the centre of the Roman Empire; and Hispania Ulterior (Further Spain), including the districts furthest from Rome, or the southern and western districts. It was not, however, till 25 B. C. that the Cantabri and Astures in the extreme north of the country laid down their arms to Augustus. After the country had been reduced to subjection, it was divided into the three provinces of Tarraconensis (embracing the northern and eastern provinces), Bætica (Andalucia), and Lusitania (Portugal and certain of the western provinces). This division of the country lasted till the reign of Constantine the Great (306-337). From the time of the complete supremacy of the Romans till the death of Constantine the condition of Spain was eminently prosperous. The inhabitants, when brought under the iron rule of the empire, were forced for the time to desist from the intestine wars in which it had been their habit to indulge, and adopting the language,



CAPTAIN HIGGINSON,
First-Class Battleship "Massachusetts."



COMMODORE SCHLEY,
In Command of Flying Squadron.



AVENUE OF PALMS.

STREET SCENE IN HAVANA.

laws and manners of their conquerors, they devoted themselves to industrial pursuits, and increased remarkably both in wealth and in numbers. Everywhere throughout the country, towns of a purely Roman character sprang up, among the chief of which were Leon, Emerita, Augusta (Merida), Pax Julia (Beja), Cæsar Augusta (Zaragoza), and numerous aqueducts, bridges, amphitheatres, etc., were built, the ruins of which are the wonder of the modern traveler. Spain, though obtained at enormous cost both in treasure and in human life, was for three centuries the richest province of the Roman Empire. Its fertile fields formed for a considerable time the granary of Rome, and from its metal-veined sierras an immense amount of treasure in gold, silver, etc., flowed into the Roman coffers. "Twenty thousand pound-weight of gold," says Gibbon, "was annually received from the provinces of Austria (Asturias), Galicia and Lusitania." This amount of wealth was not the voluntary offering of the natives, who were compelled to labor in their mines for the benefit of strangers; and thus Spain, in the early ages, was the type of Spanish America in the fifteenth and succeeding centuries, with the single difference that in the first case the Spaniards were the slaves, and in the second they were the slaveholders. In 409 A. D. hordes of barbarians, Alans, Vandals and Suevi, crossed the Pyrenees and swept over and desolated the peninsula—the Vandals for the most part settling in

Bætica, the Alans in Lusitania, and the Suevi in Leon and Castile. About 412, the Visigoths invaded the country, and their king, Athaulf, who acknowledged a nominal dependence on the Roman emperor, established the Gothic monarchy in Catalonia. Of the Visigoths—by whom the Suevi were subjugated (584), the Vandals and Alans expelled (427) from the country, and large portions of Gaul annexed to their Spanish dominion—the most remarkable kings were Wallia (415-418), who greatly extended the Gothic monarchy; Euric (466-483), who, besides increasing his territory, introduced and enforced a body of laws, and did much for the advancement of civilization in Spain; Wamba (673-680), who built a fleet for the protection of the coasts, and Roderic, who was killed at Xeres de la Frontera in 711, in battle with the Moors. The battle of Xeres gave the Moors almost undisputed mastery of nearly the whole of Spain, as well as of the outlying Gothic province of Septimania (Languedoc) in France, for the remnant of the Goths betook themselves to the highlands of Asturias, Burgos and Biscay, where, in a region which throughout had enjoyed more liberty than any other part of Spain, they maintained their independence.

DYNASTY OF THE MOORS.

The Arabs, or, as they are more properly termed, the

Moors, held Spain for the first few years of their rule as a dependency of the province of North Africa; but, after the downfall of Muza and his son Abd-el-aziz, who had been the deputy-governor of Spain, the country was governed (717) by emirs appointed by the calif of Damascus. The favorite scheme pursued by the Spanish emirs was the extension of their conquests into Gaul, to the neglect of the rising power of the Goths in Asturias; they also took the Balearic Islands, Sardinia, Corsica and part of Apulia and Calabria; the Mediterranean was infested by their fleets, but their northward progress was most signally checked on the plain of Tours by Charles Martel. Anarchy and blood-shed were prominent features of the first forty years of Mohammedan rule in Spain. The walis, or local governors of districts and provinces, frequently rebelled against the emir, and drew sword against each other according as ambition or animosity dictated. Within this period of forty years, no fewer than twenty emirs had been called to the direction of affairs; but a revolution at Damascus, which unseated the Ommiades, and placed the Abbasides in possession of the califate, put an end to this state of misrule in Spain. The last of the emirs, Jussuf, was in favor of the Abbasides, but the walis and alcaydes being chiefly of the Ommiade faction, invited one of this family, who was in concealment among the Zeneta Arabs in Barbary, to become an independent calif in Spain. Thus was founded the

califate of Cordova, from which, in 778, the Franks wrested all its possessions north of the Pyrenees, and Northeastern Spain to the Ebro; the latter acquisition, subsequently denominated the Spanish March, being alternately in the hands of the Moors and dependent upon France.

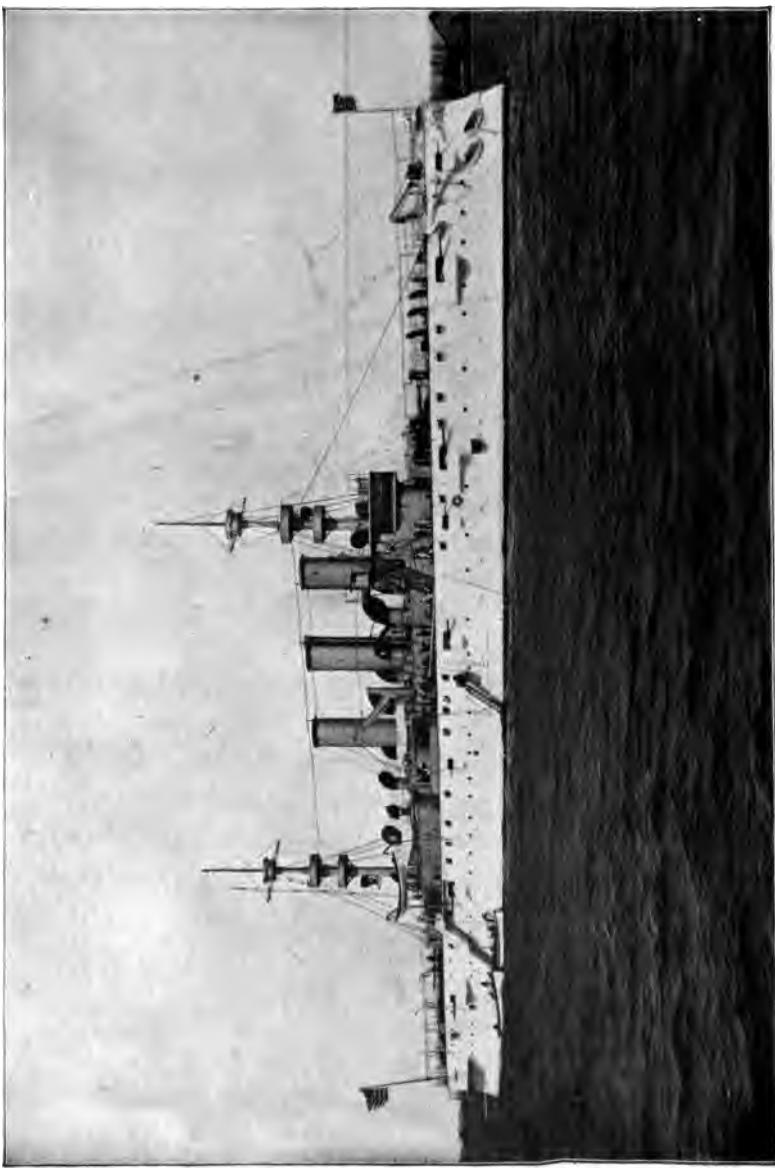
CHRISTIAN KINGDOMS.

During this period of Moorish domination, the small independent kingdom of Asturias, founded by Pelayo had been growing in power and extent. It was increased by Galicia in 758, and by parts of Leon and Castile towards the close of the century. In 758, a second independent Christian kingdom was founded in Sobrarve, and increased by portions of Navarre on one hand and Aragon on the other, but though it, along with the French Gascons, aided the Moors at Roncesvalles, it was, in 801, again swallowed up by the califate of Cordova. However, thirty-six years afterwards a Navarres count, casting off his allegiance to France, founded the third Christian kingdom, that of Navarre, which, from this time, easily maintained itself, owing to its situation, in independence of the Moors. The kingdom of Asturias, now (900) Leon, was for a long time distracted by bitter and bloody strife among the members of the royal line, and, with its neighbor Navarre, would have fallen an easy prey to the power-



GATE OF ACALA, MADRID.

ROYAL PALACE, MADRID.



Speed, 21 Knots.

"NEW YORK" (Armored Cruiser).

Cost, \$2,085,000.

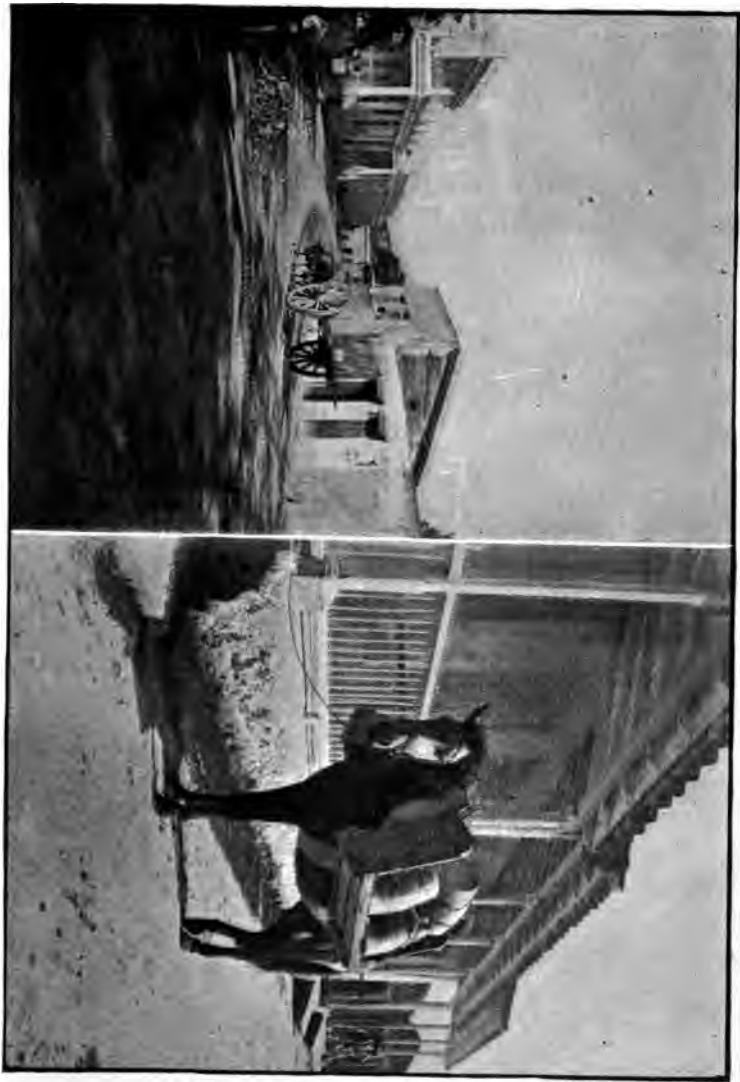
ful Ommiades, had not the latter directed their chief attention to the subjugation of Morocco; and, under cover of this relaxation of the constant warfare between Moors and Christians, another independent monarchy, an offshoot from Leon, was founded in Castile (933, kingdom in 1035), which, from its central position, and consequent greater facilities for expansion, soon became the most powerful of the Spanish States, especially after its union (temporary, 1072-1157), in 1230, with Leon. A considerable part of Aragon had been wrested from the Moors by Sancho III (1000-1035) of Navarre, and at his death this part of his dominions passed by inheritance to his son Ramiro, who added to it the districts of Sobrarbe and Ribagorza, and a considerable extent of country which he conquered from the common enemy, the Moors. This kingdom of Aragon was the last Christian kingdom formed in Spain; and though it increased by acquisitions from the Moors, yet being limited by Leon, Castile and Navarre on one side, and the Spanish March (now only the county of Catalonia or Barcelona) on the other, its princes aimed at maritime power; and by the union, through the marriage of the Count of Barcelona with Queen Petronilla, of the Spanish March with Aragon, means were obtained of carrying out this policy, and the spread of the Aragonese dominion to Sicily, Naples and other regions bordering on the Mediterranean was the consequence. These three kingdoms—Cas-

tile and Leon, Navarre, and Aragon—continued, sometimes in combination and sometimes separately, to war against their common enemy, the Moors—Castile being, from its greater power and proximity, the most persistent assailant, and Navarre, for the opposite reason, the least so; but whenever the arrival of fresh levies from Africa, or the accession of an energetic calif threatened serious danger to any one of the three, the others generally came to its aid.

The extinction of the Ommiades in Spain in 1031, and the disruption of the califate into the minor kingdoms of Cordova, Seville, Toledo, Lisbon, Zaragoza, Tortosa, Valencia, Murcia, Badajos, and seven others of less note, was an occurrence by which the kings of Castile and Aragon did not fail to benefit, for by well-directed and unremitting attacks they subdued some, rendered other tributary, the kings of Portugal also on their side gallantly and successfully pursuing the same policy; and a few years more would have certainly annihilated Moorish domination in Spain, had not Mohammed of Cordova and Seville, hard pressed by Alfonso VI of Leon and Castile about the close of the eleventh century, applied for aid to an Arab tribe, whose military career in North Africa had been of the most brilliant character. This tribe, the Almoravides—i. e., men devoted to the service of God—had made themselves masters of the provinces of Africa and Almagreb, and founded the empire of Morocco. Re-

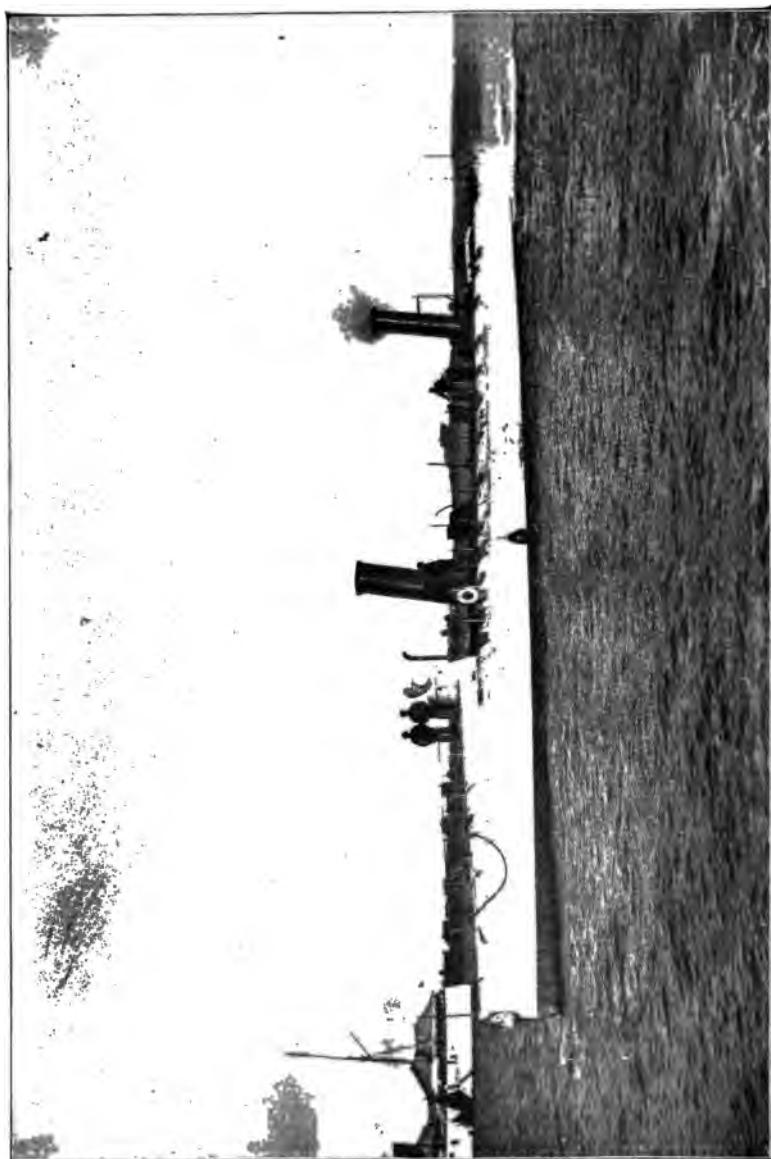
sponding to the request of Mohammed, the Almoravides crossed over to Spain, defeated the king of Aragon and Castile, and recovered much of New Castile. Then, turning upon their ally Mohammed, they compelled him to yield up the provinces of Cordova and Seville, and all the minor Moorish princes to follow his example; so that, in 1094, the Almoravide sovereign was acknowledged sole monarch of Mohammedan Spain. The power of this tribe, however, began to decline about 1130, and was extinguished by the Almohades, a fanatical sect of Mohammedans, who landed in Spain in the middle of the twelfth century, and conquered the territories of the Mohammedans in Spain. During the reign of the third monarch of this dynasty took place the battle between the combined forces of Castile, Leon, Navarre, Aragon and Portugal, with the Moors, in which the former gained the most celebrated victory ever obtained by the Christians over their Moslem foes, the latter losing, according to the account transmitted to the Pope, 100,000 killed and 50,000 prisoners. This sanguinary conflict, fought on the plains of Tolosa (*las navas de Tolosa*), 16th July, 1212, broke the Almohade power in Spain, as that of Salamanca (22d July, 1812), almost exactly six centuries afterwards, did the more formidable strength of Napoleon. On the fall of the Almohades, Mohammed-ben-Alhamar, the king of Jaen, rose to the first place among the Mohammedan princes, and founded (1238)

the kingdom of Granada. The king of Granada was speedily forced to become a vassal of Castile, and from this period all danger from Moslem power was over. The rest of the history of the Spanish kingdoms before their union is undeserving of a detailed account. The Castilian court was the scene of almost constant domestic strifes and rebellions, varied with a campaign against Granada or in favor of the monarch of that kingdom against his rebellious vassals; the only prominent monarchs of this kingdom being Ferdinand III, who confined the Moorish dominion to the south of Andalucia; Alfonso X, Alfonso XI, Pedro the Cruel, and Queen Isabella, the last sovereign of Castile, who succeeded her brother, Henry IV, owing to a widespread belief in the illegitimacy of the latter's daughter. Aragon, on the other hand, was almost wholly free from intestine dissensions, doubtless owing to the interest taken by the Aragonese monarchs in Italian politics; of these sovereigns, Jayme I (1213-1248) conquered Valencia and Majorca, and, first of all the Aragonese kings, received a voluntary oath of allegiance from his subjects; Pedro III (1248-1285), who obtained Sicily (1282), Minorca and Iviza; Jayme II, who conquered Sardinia and Corsica; Alfonso V (1416-1468), who conquered Naples, and Ferdinand II, the Catholic, the last sovereign of Aragon, who, by marriage with Isabella, Queen of Castile, in 1469, the conquest of Granada in 1492, and that of Navarre in 1512,



A VILLAGE SCENE IN CUBA.

THE WATER CARRIER.



Speed, 24 Knots.

ERICSSON (Torpedo Boat).

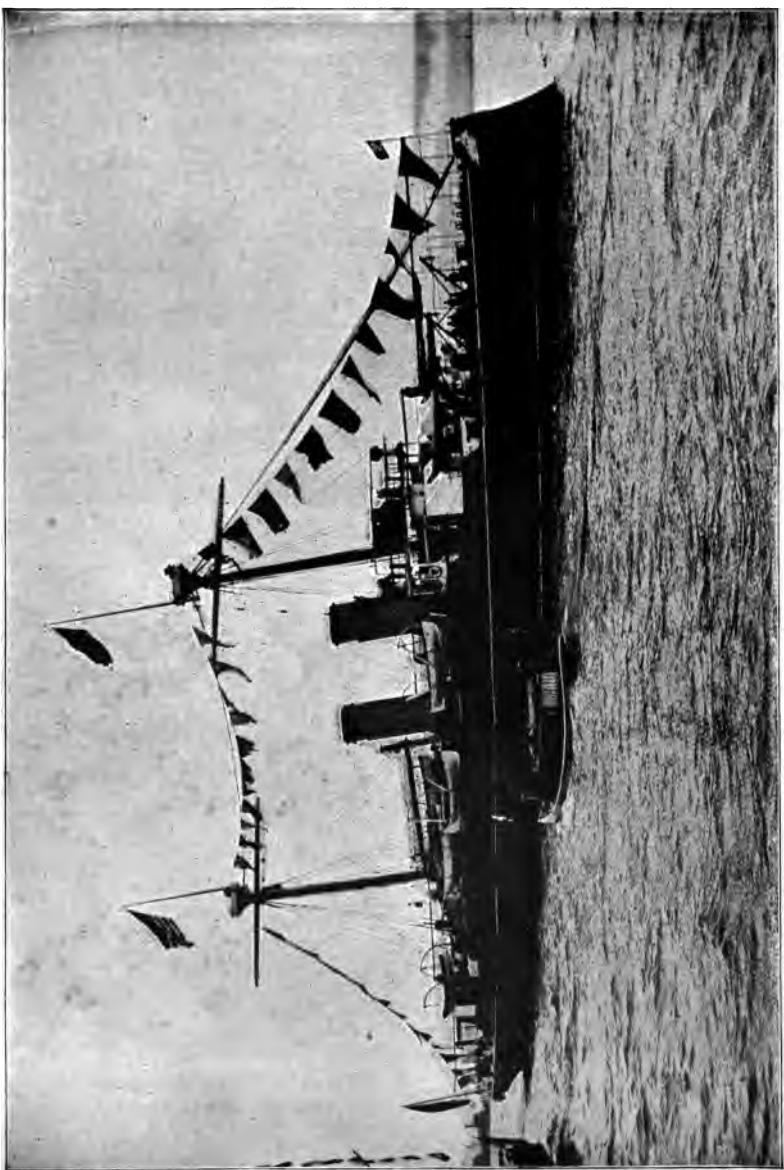
(Cost, \$113,500.

united the whole of Spain (and French Navarre) under one rule.

The year 1492, in the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella, witnessed also the discovery of America, as well as the capture of Granada. Spain had now become consolidated into one empire, from the Pyrenees to the Strait of Gibraltar, civil wars were at an end; and a splendid continent, teeming with riches, had been opened up for Spanish adventure and enterprise. But, as the most active spirits among the Spaniards now crowded to the New World, the soil of Spain, and its mineral treasures, both inexhaustible sources of wealth, were neglected for the riches of the fancied El Dorado, where, as was everywhere believed, gold was more plentiful than iron was in the old country. Besides the drain upon the country from emigration, the expulsion of the Jews and Moors was productive of the direst results; and the decline of the splendid Spanish Empire, upon which the sun even then never set, may be said to have had its origin in the event which raised the country to the height of its magnificence. Charles I (Charles V of Germany) succeeded Ferdinand, and in his reign Mexico and Peru were added to the possessions of Spain. Philip II, by his enormous war expenditure and mal-administration, laid a sure foundation for the decline of the country. Industry, commerce and agriculture may be said to have been extinguished at the expulsion of the Moriscoes; and the reigns of

Philip III and Philip IV witnessed a fearful acceleration in the decline of Spain by the contests with the Dutch, and with the German Protestants in the Thirty Years' War, the intermeddling of Olivarez in the affairs of Northern Italy, the rebellion of the Catalans, whom the minister wished to deprive of their liberties, the wars with France, and the rebellion of Portugal (1640), which had been united to Spain by Philip II. That of Charles II was still more unfortunate, and the death of the latter was the occasion of the War of the Spanish Succession. Philip V was the first of the Bourbon dynasty who occupied the throne of Spain. Under Charles III (1759-1788), a wise and enlightened prince, the second great revival of the country commenced; and trade and commerce began to show signs of returning activity. During the inglorious reign of Charles IV (1788-1808), who left the management of affairs in the hands of the incapable Godoy, a war (1796-1802) broke out with Britain, which was productive of nothing but disaster to the Spaniards, and by the pressure of the French another arose in 1804, and was attended with similar ill-success. Charles abdicated in favor of his eldest son, the Prince of Asturias, who ascended the throne as Ferdinand VII. Forced by Napoleon to resign all claims to the Spanish crown, Ferdinand became a prisoner of the French in the year of his accession; and in the same year Joseph, the brother of the French emperor, was declared king of Spain and the

Indies, and set out for Madrid, to assume the kingdom thus assigned to him. But before this time, an armed resistance had been organized throughout the whole country. The various provinces elected juntas or councils, consisting of the most influential inhabitants of the respective neighborhoods, and it was the business of these juntas to administer the government, raise troops, appoint officers, etc. The supreme junta, that of Seville, declared war against Napoleon and France on the 6th of June, 1808. In July, England, on solicitation, made peace with Spain, recognized Ferdinand VII as king, and sent an army to aid the Spanish insurrection. Joseph, on July 9, entered Spain, defeated (through his lieutenant Bessieres) the Spaniards at Rio Seco, and entered Madrid on the 20th; but the defeat of Dupont at Baylen by the veteran Spanish general Castanos, somewhat altered the position of affairs, and Joseph, after a residence of ten days in his capital, was compelled to evacuate it and retire north to Vitoria. The noble defense by Palafox of the city of Zaragoza against Lefebvre, and the return of the Marquis de la Romana with 7000 regular troops, who had been wiled from the country by Napoleon, did much to inspirit the patriots. On the 12th July, 1808, Sir Arthur Wellesley, afterwards Duke of Wellington, at the head of the British auxiliary force, landed (5th August) at Mondego Bay, and began the Peninsular War by defeating the French at Roliza and Vimiero;



REINA REGENTA (Spanish Unprotected Cruiser).

drafts from the Spanish armies so frequently made by Napoleon for his wars in Central Europe, largely contributed. Napoleon, loath to lose his hold of the Peninsula, sent Soult, his most trusted general, to stop the ingress of the British into France; but the battles of the Pyrenees (24th July—1st August, 1813), and of the Nivelle, Orthez and Toulouse, in the beginning of 1814, brought to a victorious conclusion this long and obstinate contest.

In 1812, a constitution, on the whole liberal, had been devised for the country by the Cortes of Cadiz. It was abrogated, however, by Ferdinand VII, who treated the subjects who had shown such devoted loyalty to him with infamous ingratitude, and obtained the aid of France to establish despotism. The reign of his daughter, Isabella II, was disturbed by the Carlist rebellion in 1834-1839, in which the British aided the queen with an army under Sir De Lacy Evans. The next event of importance was the contest between Espartero, the regent, and the Queen-dowager Christina, for the supreme power during the minority of the queen. Espartero was successful from 1840 to 1843, but was compelled to flee before O'Donnell and Narvaez, and was not restored till 1847. Frequent changes of ministry, occasional revolts, the banishment of Queen Christina (1854), the formation of the O'Donnell ministry (1858), the war with the Moors, the annexation of St. Domingo in 1861, and the quarrels be-

tween Spain and her former colonies, Peru (1864-1865) and Chili (1865), and the ten years' war, together with the present war with Cuba, are the most marked events in the recent history of Spain. The constituent Cortes of 1837 drew up a new constitution, based on that of Cadiz, but differing from it in many particulars. In 1845, another constitution was promulgated by Narvaez, Duke of Valencia, less liberal than the constitution of 1837, and much less liberal than that of 1812. By the last constitution, the liberty of the press was curtailed, the Senate became a nominated instead of an elective body, and the Cortes lost its right of assembling by its own authority.

CHAPTER II.

CUBA—HISTORICAL.

Cuba is the largest and most westerly of the West India group, lying between the Caribbean sea and the Gulf of Mexico, and between latitude $19^{\circ} 50'$ and $23^{\circ} 10'$ north, and longitude $74^{\circ} 7'$ and $84^{\circ} 58'$ west. Its west extremity, Cape San Antonio, is distant about 130 miles from the coast of Yucatan, from which it is separated by the channel of Yucatan; Point Maysi, its east end, is forty-eight miles from Hayti, with the Windward channel between; the strait of Florida separates it on the north from Florida, which is distant 130 miles from Cape Ycacos, and on the south the island of Jamaica lies about eighty-five miles from English point, near Cape Cruz. The greatest length from east to west is 760 miles; the width varies from twenty to 135 miles; area, including dependencies, 47,278 square miles. In shape, it is long, narrow and slightly curved, the convex side being on the north. The entire coast line is 630 Spanish leagues in extent, equal to about 2200 English miles. The shores are generally low, and lined with reefs and shallows, extending often from two to three miles into the sea, making the approach diffi-

cult and dangerous. Within these reefs there is occasionally a sandy beach, but around the greater part of the island there is a belt of low land but little above the level of the sea and subject to floods and inundations. Adjacent to the north coast, which is 306 leagues in length, and more regular in outline than that on the south, are five islands, six islets, thirty-seven keys and 521 smaller keys, the principal of which are Romano (172 square miles), Guajaba (twenty-one), Coco (twenty-eight), Turiguaco (fifty-one), Cruz (fifty-nine), Fragoso, Bocas de Anton, Verde and the keys on the Colorado banks. On the south side, the coast line of which is 324 leagues long, are, besides the isle of Pines, which is forty-three miles long and thirty-five broad, six islets, twenty-six keys and 677 small keys; of these, Cayo Largo contains thirty-two square miles. Between Cape Cruz and Casilda lie the Cayos de las Doce Leguas, which form an advanced curve to the coast, and, which, were the sea to recede a little, would add very considerably to the width of the island. There is another similar curve between Jagua and Cape Corrientes, formed by the Cayos de los Jardines. Most of the keys and reefs are of coral or limestone formation, and the extreme irregularity of the shore line is due to the ease with which rocks of this kind are acted on by water. Notwithstanding these peculiarities of the coast, Cuba has over 200 ports, including sheltered landings. The principal of these, besides Havana, which

has one of the best harbors in the West Indies, are Bahia Honda, Puerto de Cabanas, Matanzas, Cardenas, Sagua la Grande, La Guanaja, Nuevitas, Manati, Malagueta, Puerto del Padre, Gibara, Banes and Nipe, on the north coast, and Guantanamo, Santiago de Cuba, Manzanillo, Cauto, Santa Cruz, Saza, Tunas, Casilda, Cienfuegos, Cochinos and La Broa, on the south.

MOUNTAINS.

Cuba is intersected by a range of mountains, more or less broken, which extends through the entire island from east to west, and from which the streams flow to the sea on each side. At the eastern extremity the mountains spread over a wider territory than elsewhere, and some of them attain the height of 8000 feet. From Point Maysi to Cape Cruz the range called Sierra del Cobre skirts the southern coast for about 200 miles. At the western end the mountains also approach the coast. Some geographers have classified this chain into six groups; but it is generally divided into three, the eastern, central and western. Among them lie fertile valleys, some of which are 200 miles long and thirty miles wide. The ranges which give shape to these valleys generally give them also their names, as Sierra de los Organos, Sierra de Anafe, Sierra de la Perdiz. In some places, groups of hills form the margin of the island, but for the most part low tracts inter-

vene between the central elevation and the shores, and in the wet season these are rendered almost impassable by the depth of water and the tenacity of the mud. From Jagua to Point Sabina, on the southern side, the country is a continuous swamp for 160 miles, and there are many similar tracts of less extent on the northern side.

RIVERS.

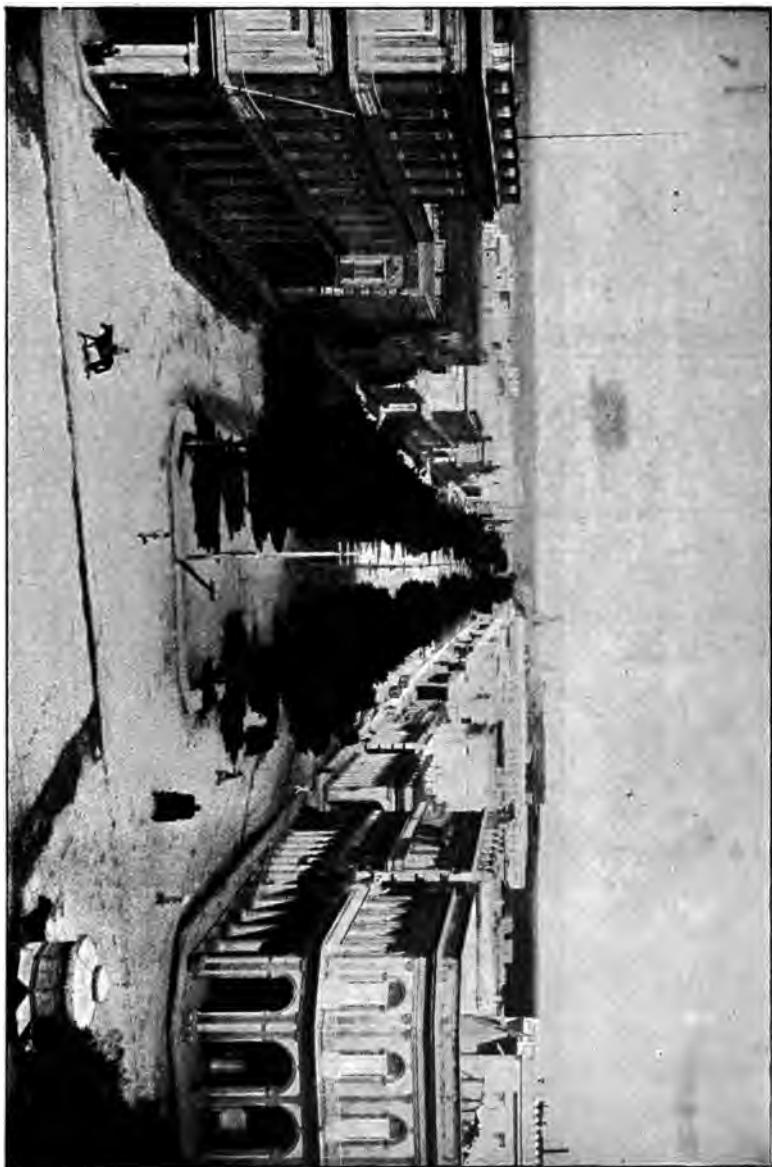
The rivers are not large, but they are numerous, amounting to 260, independent of rivulets and torrents. The Cauto, the only navigable stream, properly so called, rises in the Sierra del Cobre and empties on the southern coast, a few miles from Manzanillo, opposite the banks of Buena Esperanza. Schooners ascend it about sixty miles. Gunboats have passed up during the present civil war, and several engagements have taken place on its banks. Some other streams are navigable for small vessels from eight to twenty miles. After the Cauto, the most important rivers are the Guines and the Ay or Negro. At one time a canal was projected through the Guines river, which would cut the island in two. The Ay is remarkable for its falls, some of which are nearly 200 feet high, and for its great natural bridge, after passing under which its waters flow smoothly. There are many mineral springs in the island, the principal of which are those known as the baths of San Diego; they are sulphurous and thermal.

Of similar character are those of Madruga, although one of the springs there is said to contain copper. There are other sulphur springs at Charco Azul, Santa Maria del Rosario, San Miguel and at Santa Fé on the isle of Pines; the sulphuro-gaseous springs exist at Cienfuegos and at Ciego Montero. Nitre predominates in the springs of Copey, and in those of Cacaual near Havana. The latter was once a frequented bathing place, but is now abandoned.

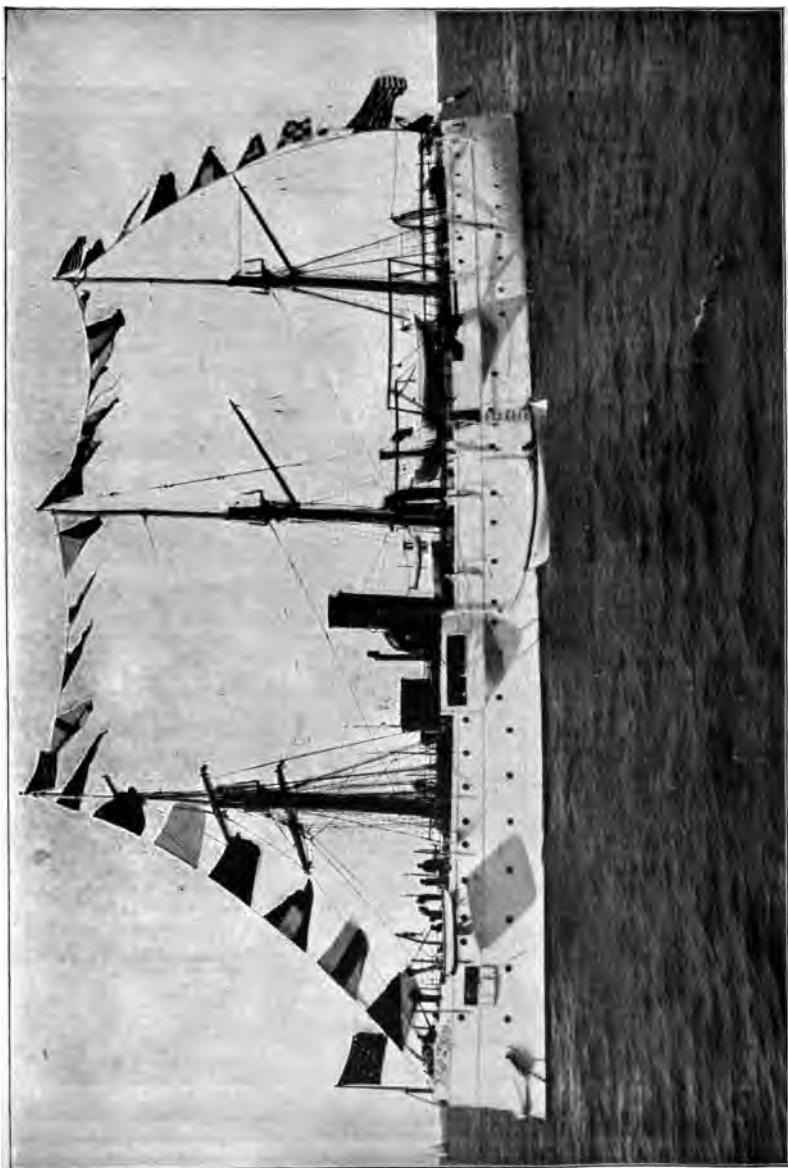
GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS.

The geological formation of Cuba is little known, the island having been thoroughly studied only in its commercial aspect. Even its topography is not yet accurately settled. The grand map engraved in Barcelona, although very valuable, cannot always be depended upon, for it is not the result of triangulation, but a compilation of many maps drawn by native surveyors, added to and completed by the labors of the navy. The works of Humboldt still furnish the most exact data concerning the geology of Cuba. He thinks that the Caribbean was once a mediterranean sea, of which the mountain ranges of micaceous schist in Cuba, Hayti and Jamaica formed the northern limit. The highest peaks of all these islands occur where the islands approach each other nearest, which induces the belief that the nucleus of these mountain ranges was

between Cape Tibouron, Hayti, Cape Morant, Jamaica, and the mountains of Cobre, which overtop the Blue mountains of Jamaica. The Caribbean range, after its subsidence into the sea, contributed to the formation of the islands. In Humboldt's opinion, four-fifths of Cuba consists of low lands. The ground is covered with secondary and tertiary formations, and is traversed by rocks of granite, syenite, gneiss and euphotide. The gradual decline of the lime formations towards the north and west indicates marine connection of the same rocks with the low lands of the Bahamas, Florida and Yucatan. The western part is granitic, and as primitive schist and gneiss have been found, it is presumed that out of these formations came the gold which was so earnestly sought for in the early days of the conquest. The central part contains calcareous formations of clay, limestone and grès. In the compact and cavernous layers are contained ferruginous veins and the red earth so common in Cuba. These result from the decomposition of superficial layers of oxidized iron with silica and slate, or with the limestone above them. Humboldt classified this formation as the Guines limestone, and regarded it as the most ancient formation, that in Trinidad and elsewhere being more recent. He considered the gypsum of Cuba as of secondary and not tertiary formation. He also drew a line between the Guines limestone and the conglomerate of the keys and small islands off the south-



PANORAMA OF THE PRADO.



BANCROFT (Special Class).

ern coast. Notwithstanding the so-called plutonic formations, there are no lavas of recent date.

METALS AND MINERALS.

Almost all metals and minerals applicable to industry are found in Cuba: gold, silver, iron, copper, quicksilver, lead, asphaltum in all its various forms, antimony, arsenic, magnesia, copperas, loadstone, gypsum, red lead, ochre, alum, salt, talc, etc. Gold is found in the Saramaguacan and other rivers. Silver occurs at San Fernando, Pinar del Rio, Canarse and Yumuri. There is copper in almost all the metamorphic rocks all over the island. It is found usually in the form of copper pyrites, sulphurets and carbonates. Coal fit for combustion has not been discovered. Springs and mines of bitumen exist in various parts, sometimes in a calcareous and sometimes in a serpentine formation. The interstices of the serpentines, diorites and euphotides are generally filled with chapapote, a highly inflammable bitumen, which is used as a substitute for coal. There are large deposits of rock salt on both the northern and southern coasts. Marble and jasper of very fine quality are found in many places. In the isle of Pines are beautiful colored marbles, and a quarry of white marble but little inferior to statuary marble. There are immense deposits of pure white sand, suitable for earthenware.

CLIMATE.

The climate is warm and dry during the greater part of the year, but it is more temperate than in other islands of the same latitude, and more equable than in many more northern countries. The thermometer never rises so high as it sometimes does in New York in the hot months, and sunstrokes are unknown. From May to October, the heat seldom reaches 100° F. in any part of the island. The highest recorded temperature, in observations extending over many years since 1801, was 104°. In December and January the air is cooled by the northern winds, and the thermometer has occasionally fallen to the freezing point. The average temperature of Havana is 77°; maximum, 89°, minimum, 50°. The average temperature of the hottest month is 82°, and of the coldest 72°. In Santiago de Cuba the average of the year is 80°; of the hottest month, 84°; of the coldest 73°. The topographical position of Cuba reduces the four seasons of the year to two, the rainy and the dry. In the former, the rain pours down in torrents almost every day. The rainfall in the island in one year has reached 133 inches. The rainy season begins in May or June and ends in November, when the season known as the "cold" or the "dry" commences. The most rain falls in September and October. In the dry season the dews are very abundant both at night and in the early morning. The average number

of rainy days in a year is 102. The greatest rainfall noted in Havana in a year is fifty inches six lines; the smallest, thirty-two inches seven lines. In the Eastern department it hails frequently between February and July. There is no record of snow having fallen in Cuba, excepting on December 24-25, 1856, when the coldest term ever known on the island was experienced, and snow fell near Villa Clara, in the central part of the island. Violent thunder storms occur from June to September. Earthquakes are seldom felt in the Western districts, but are frequent in the Eastern, especially in the vicinity of Santiago de Cuba. The salubrity of the climate is variously estimated. Some writers consider it favorable to prolonged life, but the most remarkable instances of longevity have been found among the negro and aboriginal races. Others think it unfavorable to health. The yellow fever is justly feared by Europeans and those coming from more temperate climates. The Cuban physicians believe that this disease was not known in the island till 1762. It is not yet known in the interior, and its appearance at many places is recent. It was introduced into Puerto Principe only a few years ago by Spanish troops.

VEGETATION.

The vegetation of Cuba is very luxuriant. The forests contain some woods almost as hard as iron. One

of them is called the quiebra hacha, the axe-breaker; others, such as the jucaro, are imperishable even under water. For fine furniture they are unrivaled. The marquetry work of the apartment in the Escorial used by Philip II was made of these woods. Few of these varieties are found excepting in the West India islands, but their value was long ago appreciated by the Spanish government, and led to the establishment of shipbuilding in the island as early as the beginning of the eighteenth century. From 1724 to 1796, Havana was the great nursery of the Spanish navy, but the work was finally abandoned, because it took employment from the mother country. *Lignum vitæ* and various kinds of dye woods, ebony, rosewood, mahogany, cedar, fustic, lancewood and many woods suitable for building purposes, such as acana, jocuma, etc., abound. The cedar furnishes the material of the cigar boxes. The cocoanut palm, the palma real, and the African palm (the Portuguese Parra counted forty-one varieties of the palm tree), the sour orange and the lemon are indigenous. Humboldt says: "We might believe that the entire island was originally a forest of palms and wild lime and orange trees. These last, which have a small fruit, are probably anterior to the arrival of the Europeans, who carried there the agrumi of the gardens, which rarely exceed ten or fifteen feet in height." The fruits are those common to the tropics. The pineapple is indigenous. Of the alimentary

plants, the banana is one of the most important. When the island was discovered, there were six varieties of the sweet potato cultivated by the natives, as well as the yuca or cassava, and Indian corn.

FORESTS.

Though the forests are extensive and almost impenetrable, they are inhabited by no wild animals larger than the wild dogs, which are occasionally met with. They resemble wolves both in appearance and habits, and are very destructive to young cattle and poultry. They sprung from the domestic European dog, the change in their size, appearance and habits having been effected by their wild life through many generations. The jutia is an animal of the size of the muskrat, and resembles in its habits the porcupine and the raccoon of the United States, living in trees and feeding on leaves and fruits. More than 200 species of indigenous birds, exclusive of the domesticated kinds, are known, many of them remarkable for the beauty of their plumage. Of migratory birds, the ducks of Florida, or del norte, are the most numerous. The indigenous huyuyo is a miniature of the English duck, and is of splendid plumage. Birds of prey are few. The list of fishes, according to Poey, contains 641 species. Oysters and other small shellfish are numerous, but of inferior quality compared with those of more northern

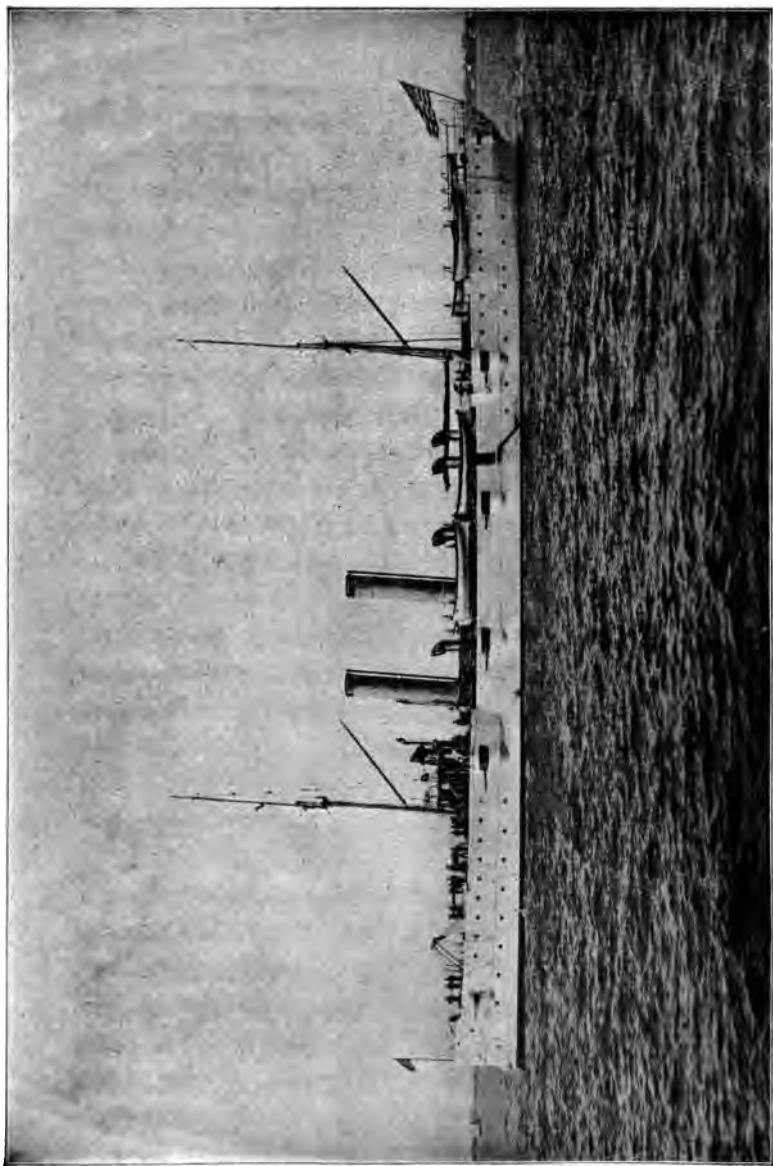
latitudes. The reefs and shallows abound in turtle, which the Indians bred in large enclosures on the coast to supply their lack of meat; they dried their fish, and thus preserved it for a long time. The alligator, cayman and ignana are common. There are few snakes: the *maja*, the largest, sometimes twelve or fourteen feet long, is harmless; the *juba*, about six feet long, is venomous. The insects are numerous, but none are properly venomous. The bite of the tarantula produces fever, but the scorpion is less poisonous than that of Europe. Among the noxious insects are the mosquito, of which there are twelve varieties: the sand-fly; the *nigua* or jigger; the *anobium bibliotecarium*, which destroys not only books, but every article of vegetable origin, boring through the obstacle which covers it, and the *bibijagua*, an ant which destroys all living vegetable matter. The latter afforded to the Indians a delicious morsel in its honeycomb of eggs. The varieties of the butterfly are estimated at 300, and there are as many kinds of flies. The firefly is celebrated for its jewel-like beauty, and is often worn by ladies to ornament their dresses. The Florida bee, which is exotic, is similar to the European variety. The indigenous bee is much smaller than the Florida bee, and its honey is whiter, but its wax is almost black.

THE INHABITANTS.

The inhabitants of Cuba are mostly of Spanish and

WASHING HORSES AT THE PUNTA, HAVANA.





Speed, 17 Knots.

Cost, \$612,500.

"MONTGOMERY."

of African descent. For a time after the conquest in 1511, none but Castilians were allowed to settle there, but after the prohibition was removed, colonists from all the provinces, and even from the Canary islands, came thither. All these classes of Spaniards are now represented in the island. The Biscayans hire out as mechanics; the Catalans, who are numerous, devote themselves to hard labor; the Asturians, Castilians and Andalusians occupy clerkships and pursue the learned professions. In the Eastern department traces still exist of the French emigration from Santo Domingo, and in Cardenas the influence of North Americans is visible even in the shape of the buildings. The Germans in Havana devote themselves to commerce, and they speak Spanish better than most foreigners. The offspring of foreigners, whether black or white, are called creoles; the children of creoles are called riellos. Of the aborigines, some families still exist in the Eastern department, as at Caney, near Santiago. They intermarry like the Jews, and their appearance is, as Columbus described it, "not as dark as Canary Islanders." The whites consist principally of Spaniards and creoles, whom political hatred keeps ever apart; the hatred is not so much personal as collective, on account of their class relations. The creoles are distinguished by their intelligence, conscientiousness and hospitality. They own sugar estates, houses and other real estate, while the Spaniards, who are only oc-

casionally planters, monopolize most of the trade. The retail trade is almost entirely carried on by Catalans, so much so that in the interior all Spaniards are known as Catalans. All the offices are in the hands of Spaniards, being the rewards generally of political services. Of the negroes, those who speak Spanish are called ladinos; those who do not, bozales. Africans are called negros de nacion, and their progeny become criollos. The cross of a white man with a black woman, and vice versa, produces a mulatto; the offspring of a mulatto and a black, a chino; all others are known as quadroons. All the numerical reports of the population have been incomplete, the slaves in particular having been generally underestimated.

Between 1817 and 1842, according to English statistical writers, who were furnished the data from their consulates, 335,000 slaves were imported; a greater number in twenty-five years than in the thirty-one years when the trade was legalized. Between 1842 and 1852, no fewer than 45,000 negroes were imported. The "mixed commission," presided over by an English judge, had little effect in suppressing the traffic. A slaver was occasionally captured, and, if a lawful prize, she was retained as such by her captors; but her slaves were apprenticed, under the name of emancipados, to the planters for terms of eight, ten and fifteen years, according to their ages. At a later period they were openly traded by the government. The emancipados

were no better off than the slaves. When they went into the interior they were reported as dead, and the names of old and infirm slaves whom they substituted were given to them. The law concerning slavery, passed June 23, 1870, declares free all born after its passage and all who had attained at that time the age of sixty; but so determined has been the opposition of the slave traders that the government has not been able to enforce it. Chinese were first brought under contract from Amoy in 1847 by the royal society of public works, and were given out for the proportionate cost of their transportation. Afterward the business was converted into a new slave trade by companies and private persons, who raised the prices of importations. Over 50,000 had been brought in up to 1873, and the records of the courts afford abundant proof of the oppression and violence of which they are the victims. When the importation had reached 33,000, it was calculated that the annual mortality was 17 per cent. Indians from Yucatan were also imported at one time under contract, but the government of Mexico prohibited it by enactment, partly in consequence of a regulation passed in Havana authorizing flogging as a punishment.

Negro slavery in the island still lingered after the importation of negroes had ceased. Finally, in 1870, a law was enacted by the Spanish Cortes providing that all unborn children of slaves should be free, and

all over sixty years should be manumitted. In 1886, however, the emancipation was made universal.

POPULATION.

The population of the island at the present time is not exactly known, but is usually placed at 1,600,000. Of this number, about 1,000,000 are whites, between 400,000 and 500,000 are blacks, and the rest coolies and mixed races.

The census which is considered the most reliable is that published over eight years ago, December 31, 1887, which is as follows:

Province of Santiago de Cuba, 157,980 whites, 114,-
339 colored; total, 272,319.

Province of Puerto Principe, 53,232 whites, 13,557
colored; total, 66,789.

Province of Santa Clara, 244,345 whites, 109,777
colored; total, 354,122.

Province of Matanzas, 143,169 whites, 116,401 col-
ored; total, 259,570.

Province of Havana, 344,417 whites, 107,511 col-
ored; total, 451,928.

Province of Pinar del Rio, 167,160 whites, 58,731
colored; total, 225,891.

This makes a grand total of 1,110,303 whites, 520,-
316 colored, and a total of both combined of 1,630,619,

showing, therefore, a percentage of about 79 of whites to 21 of colored.

COMMERCE.

Under the provisions of the McKinley Tariff Law for Reciprocity treaties, Mr. Blaine, then Secretary of State, negotiated a treaty with Spain, under which our trade with the island greatly increased. During 1893, under the operations of this law, we sold Cuba merchandise to the value of \$24,157,698. Prior to the treaty, our exports were only about half this sum, and, upon its abrogation by the Wilson law, it fell back to its old condition. The total exports of Cuba amount to about \$90,000,000 a year, of which we take about \$75,000,000 worth. In 1893, we bought of tobacco \$9,000,000; cigars and cigarettes, \$2,750,000; bananas, \$1,650,000; cocoanuts, \$150,000; other fruits, \$550,000; molasses, \$1,000,000; sugar, \$60,607,000; cedar, mahogany and other woods, \$1,000,000; iron ore, \$642,000. Our exports to Cuba consist mostly of wheat, flour, meat products and lard; wire fence, lumber, petroleum, machinery and manufactures of iron.

The average annual sugar product of the island is 900,000 tons, of which the United States takes 700,000 tons. The average annual export of tobacco is 200,000 bales, and of cigars 200,000,000. The island has about 1000 miles of railroad, connecting Havana with

the other principal cities and the most extensive plantations.

PRINCIPAL CITIES OF CUBA.

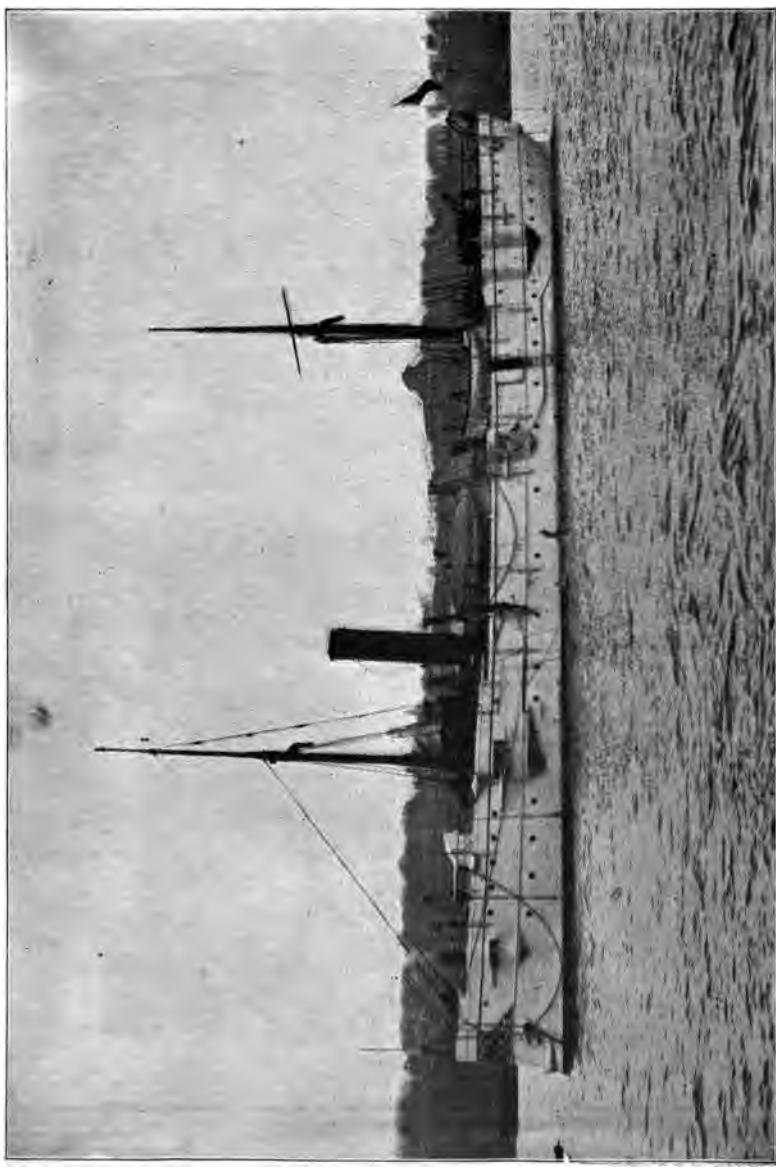
HAVANA.

It was a bright forenoon when I first saw Havana from the deck of the steamer as we entered the harbor. It was a picture never to be forgotten; on the left, the gray and solemn Morro and the fortress Cabanas, with its parapet stretching for 800 feet along the bay; on the right was the cross-shaped fort of La Punta. Before us spread out the bay like a gigantic green and shimmering clover leaf, and on the right, as the stem of the trefoil curved out into its western leaf, lay the grandest seaport mart of the Western world, save one. It would be indeed an unimaginative memory that could forget at such a moment that here in this roadstead Hawkins and Drake had dropped anchor; from here De Soto had sailed away with his brave company, to a grave in the Mississippi, and up the same channel the good ship San Lorenzo had brought the ashes of Columbus, in 1704, to their resting place in the Cathedral of the Society of Jesus.

The entrance to the bay is over 800 feet wide and 4,000 feet long. The arm which spreads out south of the city is called El Fondo, or the Bay of Yates. On its shore stands a fort of the latter name built in 1763.

Fruit Seller.





MACHIAS (Gunboat).

guarding the southern approaches to the city. The eastern arm is called Regla, and the central arm Guasabacoa. The bay altogether can accommodate 1000 ships. A fort on an eminence to the west of the city, at the terminus of the Great Boulevard, the Paseo Militar, called Castillo Principe, completes the defenses. The old walls, begun about 1665, and completed in the eighteenth century, were demolished in 1863, and only enough of the structure now remains to exhibit to travelers. Still, the city is divided into the part within and the part without the walls. The old, or intramural city, is densely built, with streets so narrow as scarcely to allow the 6000 carriages of which the Havanese boast to pass each other. The sidewalks have the same objection for pedestrians. The city is built of stone, and the houses are covered with stucco, and painted yellow, red, green and blue, with a profusion of white marble trimmings. The early settlers coming from Southern Spain, the style is naturally Moresque.

The new quarter of the city is built on as liberal a scale as Paris, with broad boulevards, plazas and promenades. Indeed, the Havanese will not listen to the comparison of his city with any other, except the French capital. There are churches numerous and magnificent, hotels that are palatial, and theatres that are second to none on the Continent. There are also hospitals, colleges, art schools and other modern institutions, but above all are the barracks and garrisons,

impressing the visitor all the time with a sense of apprehension of something about to happen. The palace of the Governor-General is a massive yellow building, square, flat roofed, with its courtyard and palms, like all the rest of the structures.

In spite of three-quarters of a century of almost constant internal turmoil, the commerce of Havana has grown to vast proportions; an average of about 2000 vessels trading there each year in ordinary times. It is the greatest sugar and tobacco market in the world. The factories of the city make for export some 200,000,000 cigars annually under normal conditions. Cigar and cigarette making is the chief industry now, although in former times there was a great navy-yard on the bay, where, between 1726 and 1796, 114 ships-of-the-line were built to convoy the fleet carrying treasure home from Mexico. The establishment was closed at the last-named date, because the Spanish shipbuilders demanded that the work be done in Spain. The population has more than trebled during the present century, and now numbers about 300,000.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

Santiago de Cuba, the original capital of the island, is the principal city of the southeastern part today, having a population of about 30,000. It is located on a fine bay opening to the south, and the city rises from

the water up the face of a hill about 150 feet in height. The harbor has been allowed to fill up with silt, until vessels of a draft of over fourteen feet cannot approach the wharf. The city boasts the largest cathedral in Cuba, and is an important shipping place for mahogany, ores, tobacco and cigars, while sugar comprises about two-thirds of its commerce. Its exports in 1883 amounted to nearly \$4,000,000. It has few industries besides cigar-making, doing a little in tanning and soap boiling.

MATANZAS.

Next after Havana in importance is the beautiful city of Matanzas, sixty miles to the east. It is located on the north coast, where it has a spacious harbor, of recent years, unfortunately, allowed to fill up considerably. Like all else in Cuba, it is smitten with the mildew of Spain's decline. The city lies between two rivers, something like Charleston, S. C. On one side is the Rio de San Juan, and on the other the Yumuri. It is well built, and resembles Havana very much in its architecture. It has a splendid plaza, upon one side of which stands the official residence of the governor of the province. It has one of the finest theatres in Cuba, and probably the best educational institution in the West Indies. In 1693, 200 years after Columbus sailed by its site, the city was founded by a party of immigrants from the Canary Isles. It has a population

of some 30,000 Close by the city is one of the most striking natural curiosities of the island, the Valley of the Yumuri, and within two miles of the city are situated also the famous Caves of Bellamar, about three miles in extent, which, though not so grand as some of the mighty caverns in other parts of the world, are acknowledged to contain the most beautiful chambers of natural crystal known anywhere.

PUERTO PRINCIPE.

Puerto Principe was originally founded on the north coast, early in the sixteenth century, by Velasquez, but it has been moved several times, until it is now in the interior. Its port is the Bay of Nuevitas, a broad harbor, approached by a narrow entrance, six miles long. The city is the seat of the province of the same name, and has about 45,000 inhabitants. In 1800 it was for a time the centre of administration for the entire Spanish West Indies, owing to the loss of San Domingo; but it has waned in importance. It is connected with the capital by a railway.

CARDENAS.

Cardenas, on the northern coast, is 105 miles east of Havana, and is one of the new cities of the island, having been founded only in 1828. It is a sugar mart, ex-

porting about 90,000 tons in good times. It has a population of about 12,000.

INDUSTRY.

Productive industry in Cuba is devoted mainly to sugar and tobacco-raising. General agriculture was early hampered by many obstacles, the greatest of which was the scarcity of labor. The system of free breeding of cattle interfered much with cultivation of the soil. This system, which was instituted by Charles V, gave the common use of the lands for pasture after the crops had been gathered. In 1555 this law was modified, and many favors and privileges were granted to agriculturists. Loans of money (\$4000 to persons of known probity) were made by the government to those who devoted themselves to the raising of sugar-cane, and the sale of sugar estates for debt was prohibited. The most noteworthy concession was the one authorizing the importation of 1000 negro slaves. Special privileges were afterward granted to the cultivators of coffee, indigo and other productions. The creation of the consulado (board of trade, public works and agriculture) of Havana, and of the "economical society of the friends of the country," contributed to the progress of agriculture. The reports of the royal society and the Papel periodico (1790), which took the place of the Gaceta (1763), directed the industry of the

island into new channels; and the emigration from Santo Domingo and the Continent added to its prosperity. But general agriculture has given place mostly to sugar-making. The differential duties imposed by foreign nations as an offset to the duties collected in Cuba reduced the production of coffee to little more than enough for local consumption. The only agricultural product which has not been superseded by sugar as a chief article raised for export is tobacco. Cotton is cultivated, but not to any extent compared with the great staples. The mulberry tree grows to perfection, and is raised for silkworms. These worms were introduced into Cuba by Don P. Alejandro Au-ber, who affirms that they are more prolific and more productive than anywhere else in the world. The cactus, or cochineal fig tree, has been the subject of suc-cessful experiments by the economical society. Cacao is cultivated in Remedios on a small scale; and Indian corn, bananas and other produce called in Cuba grains and viandas, are raised in quantities sufficient for home consumption. The only fruits raised for export are oranges and pineapples. The tobacco known all over the world as Havana tobacco is grown on the southern coast at the extreme western end of the island, on a strip of country called the Vuelta Abajo, extending from Rio Hondo to Cuyaguateje and the river Mantua. The tract is of an irregular shape, about eighty miles long by twenty wide. Next in value to the tobacco of



HAVANA.



EXPLOSION OF THE "MAINE" IN HAVANA HARBOR, FEBRUARY 15, 1898.

the Vuelta Abajo is that of Mayari, which grows over an extent of fifty-four miles from Mayari to Holguin. The tobacco of outlying districts is of good quality all over the island, and equal to any produced in Hayti or on the banks of the Magdalena in Columbia. A caballeria (thirty-three acres) of land produces on an average the following crops: Sugar, 75,000 pounds; coffee, 12,500 pounds; tobacco, 9000 pounds; cacao, 25,000 pounds; cotton, 6000 pounds; indigo, 1500 pounds; corn, 20,000 pounds; rice, 50,000 pounds; sago, 33,000 pounds; bananas, 2000 bunches; yuca, 50,000 pounds.

Cattle-raising is largely carried on, and although it does not fully supply the demand, it represents a large amount of capital. The alternate system of pasturage has been recently adopted, but the plan of natural pasturage finds most favor. Of late years, very good stock, including Durham and Devonshire bulls, has been imported into Camaguey, but the insurrection has swept them away. The establishment of artificial pastures (potreros), and the importation of good stock, have tended to improve the breed of cattle. The grass chiefly sown in the artificial pastures is the Para grass, which has lately been introduced. The 3285 breeding estates produce annually \$5,286,180. Cuba contains 1,059,432 caballerias, equal to about 35,000,000 acres of land, distributed as follows: In agriculture proper, 80,682; in barren lands, 225,195; in forests,

466,331; in natural pastures, 262,620; in artificial pastures, 24,604—total, 1,059,432.

The mineral productions of Cuba have been hitherto but little developed.

EDUCATION.

The system of education in Cuba originally conformed to that of Spain, but it has been modified from time to time according to the personal characters of the rulers of the island. Under the House of Austria, laws were passed authorizing the creation of universities in the Indies. The University of Havana was established in 1722 by a pontifical bull of Innocent XIII, which was approved by the Spanish government, January 5, 1729. There had been classes many years before in the convent of the Franciscans in Havana, where Latin, philosophy and theology were taught, but no degrees were conferred. Government had no direct supervision of education till 1842. In that year the Dominican friars ceased to govern the "Royal and Pontifical University," which was declared a national establishment, under the name of "Literary University." The governor-general nominated the professors, who were subsequently approved by the supreme government. The study of the natural sciences was introduced at that date. General Concha, in connection with the professors, drew up a complete plan of public education; but subsequently, in 1863,

when he was minister, the classes in philosophy were ordered to be suppressed, and the system was assimilated to that of Spain. Since then philosophical and transcendental studies have been confined within very narrow limits; but the faculties in the ecclesiastical seminaries and in the colleges of the religious orders have been increased. The expenses of education in the higher branches are defrayed from the public revenues, according to official statements. The town councils pay the expenses of primary education. The amount disbursed for educational purposes in 1866 was as follows: Primary schools, \$1,131,354; grammar schools, \$459,056; collegiate seminaries, \$42,000; professional education, \$73,619; university education, \$71,600—total, \$1,777,729. There are 209 public schools on the island, of which ninety-three are for girls, and 245 private schools. Two-thirds of the whole receive education free. The proportion of those who can read and write, exclusive of Chinese, is: White males, 45 per cent.; white females, 35 per cent; colored males, 5 per cent.; colored females, 6 per cent. The number of newspapers, political and literary, published in 1868 was thirty-nine, distributed as follows: In Havana, twenty-one; in Santiago de Cuba, five; in Matanzas, three; in Cienfuegos, Villa Clara and Santo Espiritu, two each; in Cardenas, Remedios, Trinidad and Puerto Principe, one each. In 1869, during the few days of the liberty of the press granted by General

Dulce, forty new journals were started in Havana alone; but of many of these one number only was issued. Of the Verdad ("Truth"), which, from its form and matter might aspire to the rank of a political newspaper, three numbers appeared and 14000 copies were sold each day, an unprecedented occurrence in Havana.

LITERATURE.

The history of literature in Cuba begins with the revival of belles-lettres in the time of Charles III. The prominent names in general literature in the eighteenth century are Francisco de Arango and Tomas Romay; a part of the works of the latter belong to the next century. In the nineteenth century figure Frederico de Armas, Anastasio Carrillo, Jose de Frias, Manuel Costales, Ramon Zambrana and Gaspar Betancourt, better known as El Lugareno. The Cuban poets of the eighteenth century are Rubalcaba, of Santiago de Cuba, and Manuel Zequicha, of Havana; of this century, Jose M. Heredia, Placido Milanes and many others. Of sacred writers and moralists, T. Barea, Rafael de Castillo y Sucre, Francisco del Cristo, Felix Veranes, Jose Agustin Caballero and Father Gonzales belong to the last century; in the present century, Felix Varela, Father Oliva and Friar Remigio Cernados are the most distinguished. In philosophy, the same Father Caballero was prominent in the eighteenth cen-

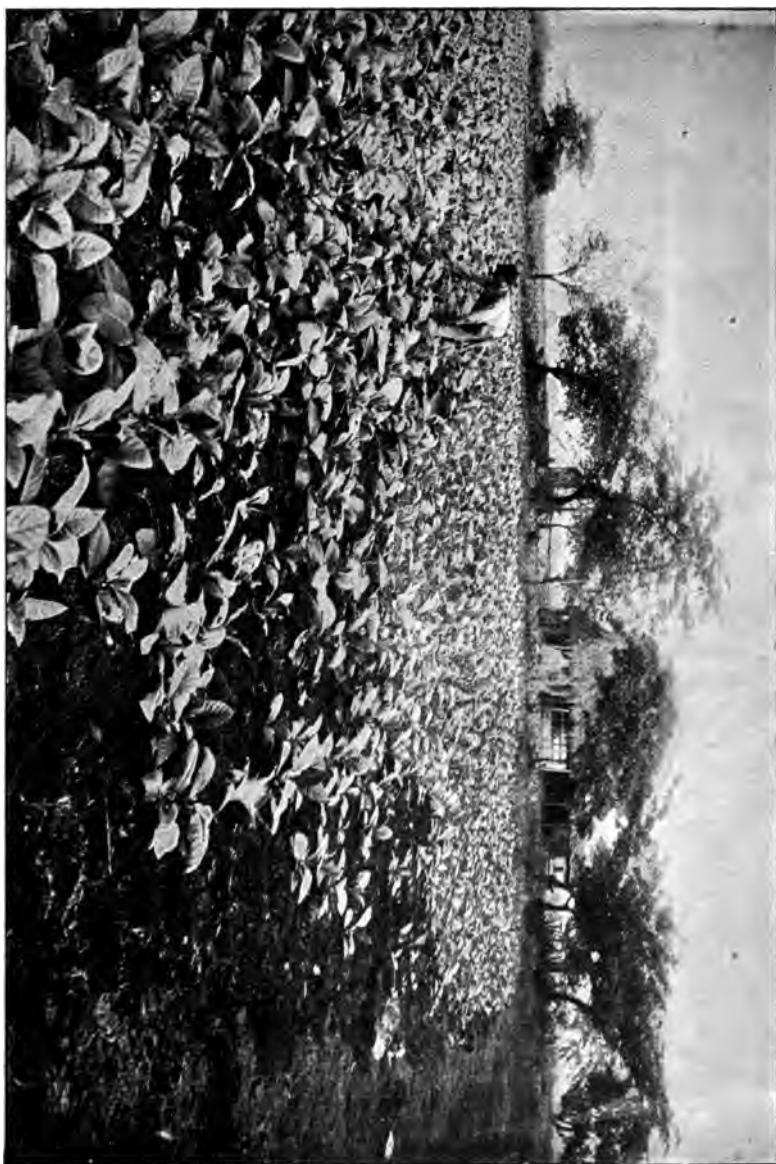
tury; in the present, the principal writers are Felix Varela, professor of modern philosophy in Cuba and in many other parts of Spanish America, and formerly vicar apostolic of New York; Jose de la Luz Caballero, and Jose Gonzales del Valle. As jurisconsults, the lights of the eighteenth century are Francisco Conde, Pedro Ayala and Rafael Gonzales; of the nineteenth, Francisco de Armas, Jose A. Govantes, Anacleto Bermudez, Jose Antonio Cintra, Isidro Carbonell and many others. The historians of the eighteenth century are Arrati and Urrutia; of the nineteenth, A. Valdez, Jose Arango y Castillo and the writers of the historical bureau of the economical society. Dramatic literature was little cultivated in the last century. The only work which was often represented on the stage was the *Principe jardinero*, by Father Jose Rodriguez (a) Capacho, who was also a poet and a satirical writer. In this century, the poet Milanes produced the *Conde de Alarcon*. Some European writers resident in Cuba have enriched her literature, such as Pablo Boloix, Pedro A. Auber, Father Velez and others. In the fine arts, Vermay and Perouani have been distinguished.

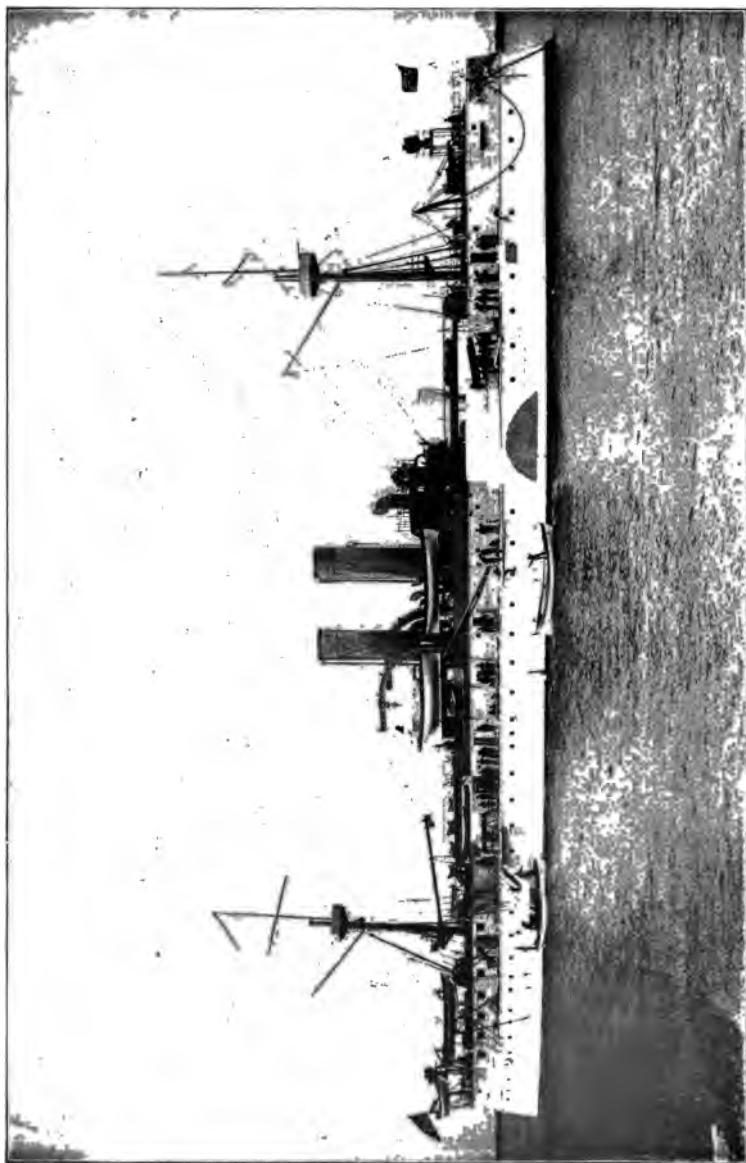
GOVERNMENT.

Cuba, with the islands dependent upon it, forms the captain-generalcy of La Habana, which is subject in all branches of the administration to one authority, the

representative of the Spanish sovereignty, who has the unlimited powers of a general in time of war, and is accountable only to the home government, by which he is appointed. He is assisted by an administrative council, also chosen by the supreme government, whose opinion is taken in certain cases, chiefly in matters of finance. The division of the island is sixfold: civil, military, naval, fiscal, judicial, and ecclesiastical. In its civil or political aspect the whole island is under the command of a governor-in-chief, who is always the captain-general, and is divided into five governorships, as follows: La Habana, Matanzas, the Central or Puerto Principe, the Eastern or Santiago de Cuba, and the Western. Each of these departments is in charge of a lieutenant-governor, and they are subdivided into thirty-three political districts. The captain-general has also military command of the entire island. The military divisions are three: the Western, Central, and Eastern, the respective capitals of which are Havana, Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba. Of the first, the captain-general has the sole charge; the second is commanded by the governor of Puerto Principe; the third by the governor of Santiago de Cuba. These departments are subdivided into eight comandancias generales, viz: Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Moron, El Principe, Holguin and Cuba. The naval government is in charge of a commandant-general, whose headquarters are in Havana. It is di-

TOBACCO PLANTATION.





THE BATTLESHIP "MAINE."

vided into five provinces: Havana, San Juan de los Remedios, Nuevitas, Santiago de Cuba and Cienfuegos. These are subdivided into subdelegaciones. Each province is under the command of an adjutant (*ayudante*), and each subdelegation of an *alcalde de mar*. The fiscal administration consists of a central bureau of taxes and seven local districts, which are Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Trinidad, Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba. The captain-general is the general superintendent of finance. Judicially, the island is divided into two audiencias: the pretorial court of Havana, which comprises the western part, including Remedios and Santo Espiritu; and that of Santiago de Cuba, the eastern portion. These are subdivided into twenty-five judicial districts, each of which is in charge of a local judge or justice of the peace. The ecclesiastical divisions are two, the Eastern diocese, which is ruled by the Archbishop of Santiago de Cuba, and the Western, by the Bishop of Havana. They are reciprocally courts of appeal, each from the other's decrees. The revenues are derived from two sources, maritime and inland. The former comprise customs and lighthouse dues, ship visits, etc.; the latter, direct and indirect taxes upon almost everything assessable, and lotteries.

It was stated in the Spanish Cortes, October 27, 1871, that the cost of the war during the preceding year had been \$62,000,000, and that the colonial deficit

for the same period was \$11,000,000. Even in time of peace the greater part of the revenue is absorbed by the expenses of the army and navy. In ordinary times there are stationed in Cuba, besides the disciplined militia and the militia of Ferdinand VII, 20,000 regular troops, who are either drafted or enlisted by bounty in Spain. This force has been much increased since the breaking out of the war. According to official data published in Madrid in 1870, the regular troops in Cuba amounted to 23,000, the expeditionary corps to 33,000, and the militia in active service to 4000, making a total in the field of 60,000. Besides these, there were 70,000 volunteers in garrison, who seldom went into the field. The Spanish navy in the Antilles is never less than from twenty-five to thirty vessels, carrying over 200 guns and 3000 men. Since the outbreak of the war, thirty light-draft gunboats, built in the United States, have been added to this fleet, to be used in guarding the coasts against filibustering expeditions, and other vessels for a similar purpose have been purchased as late as 1873. The active military force has been considerably decreased by sickness and by the casualties of war, but partial reinforcements from Spain are continually arriving.

ROADS.

Internal communication was formerly very difficult on account of the want of good roads, but has much

improved since the introduction of railways, which were used in Cuba before they were in any other Spanish-speaking country, the first, that from Havana to Guines, having been opened in 1837.

DISCOVERY.

Cuba was discovered by Columbus, October 28, 1492. It is generally thought that he entered the island near Nuevitas, on the northern coast, by the river Maximo. He believed that it was a part of the continent, but later, in a letter to Sanchez, he accepted the opinion of the Indians and called it an island. On his return to Cuba, however, he reaffirmed his previous belief, and had a report drawn up and published, in order that his opinion might be set down in due form. He gave to his new discovery the name of Juana, in honor of Prince Juan, the heir of his royal patrons. It was subsequently called Fernandina, after the death of Ferdinand, and still later Santiago and Ave Maria; but none of these names supplanted that of Cuba, by which it was known to the natives. The island was thickly populated by a docile race of Indians, who extended to all the large West India islands and the Bahamas. They called themselves by the general name of Tainos, the Good, but the Cubans were known specifically as Ciboneyes. In 1511, Diego Velasquez, who had been appointed adelantado of Cuba by Diego

Columbus, overran the island with 300 men. The natives, unable to cope with the invaders, were easily subdued, and Hatuey, their chief, who fell into the hands of the Spaniards, was burned at the stake near the present town of Yara. Baracoa, at the eastern end of the island, was founded at this time, and in 1514 Santiago, which was made the capital, and Trinidad on the southern coast.

In the same year, a place on the southern coast, at the mouth of the river Ojicajinal, was settled and called San Cristobal de la Habana; but the name was transferred to a new site on the northern coast, near where the river Marianao falls into the sea, and still later, in 1519, to the present locality.

Velasquez also founded Bayamo, Puerto Principe and Santo Espiritu. The natives were soon brought into complete subjection, and were allotted to the settlers as encomiendas, in gangs of about 300 to each Spaniard, who employed them in the cultivation of the soil, principally in the growing of sugar-cane. They disappeared so rapidly under the cruel treatment which they received that in 1553 there were but few left. As early as 1534 the officials applied to the emperor for "7000 negroes, that they might become inured to labor before the Indians ceased to exist." With the virtual extinction of the natives, the agriculture of the island declined, and it became mainly a pastoral country. In 1537, Diego Columbus relinquished by agreement his

right to appoint the government for Cuba, and the king made Hernando de Soto captain-general. The audiencia (supreme court), which had been organized in Santo Domingo for the administration of justice, was soon transferred to Cuba (Puerto Principe), and a law was passed appointing the captain-general the president of the court. The island was governed as one department up to 1607, when it was divided into two. All powers, civil and military, were vested in the captain-general, who resided at Santiago, which was the capital till 1552, when Angulo removed it to Havana. All the governors had the title of captain-general, although many of them were civilians, and their substitutes were called lieutenants-general. In the early days the discovery of Mexico and other countries drained the island of its working population, and the government passed a law imposing the penalty of death on all who left. Other laws prohibited all foreigners, and even Spanish subjects not natives of Castile, from trading with the island or settling in it. The increase of population was therefore slow; the introduction of negroes was gradual, and growth was almost stopped. After the capture of Jamaica by the English in 1655, smuggling was largely carried on. On the arrival of Governor-general Valdez in the latter part of the seventeenth century it was discovered that nearly all the Havanese were guilty of the crime of *rescate*, or illicit trading, the penalty of which was death. At the

suggestion of Valdez, a ship was freighted with presents for the king and sent to Spain, with a petition for pardon, which was granted. Havana was destroyed by the French twice in the sixteenth century. In 1592 it received the title of city. During this century, monastic institutions were introduced into Cuba, and in 1576 the inquisition sent a delegate thither. In 1631 there were six militia companies, armed with arquebuses and crossbows. Epidemics carried off many of the inhabitants in 1648 and 1654. The disease was called putrid fever, but many suspect it to have been yellow fever. The people of Cuba took sides in the dissensions that ensued on the death of Charles III, but through the efforts of Bishop Evelino de Compostela bloodshed was prevented and a peaceful triumph obtained for the partisans of Philip V. In 1717, a revolt broke out in consequence of the attempt to establish a tobacco monopoly. Governor Raja was obliged to flee, but the trouble was quelled and the factory set up; it continued until the beginning of the present century, when it was suppressed by Arango. In 1723, a second uprising took place, induced by oppressive government, and twelve of those implicated were hanged by the captain-general, Gómez. Printing was introduced about this time. Between 1722 and 1747, many ships were built at Havana, comprising six ships of the line, twenty-one of seventy to eighty guns each, twenty-six of fifty to sixty guns, fourteen frigates of

OX CARS.





INTERIOR OF THE UPPER TURRETS, SHOWING BREECHES OF THE 8-INCH GUNS ON "MASSACHUSETTS."

thirty to forty guns, and fifty-eight smaller vessels; in all, 125 vessels, carrying 4000 guns. Since the latter date there has been little shipbuilding there. During the present century the machinery of one steamer, the Sagua, was built at Sagua la Grande, and one war steamer and one merchant steamer were built in Havana. In 1762 Havana was taken by an English fleet and army under Lord Albemarle. The English retained the island only until July of the following year, but during that time over 900 loaded vessels entered the port of Havana, more than all the previous entries since the discovery. Prior to this period, 60,000 slaves had been imported. From 1763 to 1789, the importation was about 1000 a year. In the latter year the Spanish slave code was promulgated, and the slave trade, previously a monopoly, was made free, after which importations increased largely. In 1763, the *Gaceta de la Habana* was started, and a postoffice department was established. In 1767, the Jesuits were expelled from Cuba, as from the rest of the Spanish dominions. Under the administration of Las Casas, which began in 1790, Cuba made rapid progress in commercial prosperity and in public improvements. He developed all branches of industry, fostered the patriotic societies and permitted the establishment of newspapers. By his judicious government the tranquility of the island was maintained during the time of the revolution in Santo Domingo. In 1808, when the

royal family of Spain was deposed by Napoleon, the Cubans declared for the crown, and proved their loyalty by numerous voluntary subscriptions, by the publication of vehement pamphlets and by sending their sons to fight. But scarcely any of the promises made to them were fulfilled. Since that time the island has been ruled by a succession of captains-general from Spain, some of whom have tried to advance the interests of the people, but the most of whom have done little else than make fortunes for themselves. The government has been generally of the most oppressive character, and if the island has advanced in prosperity, it has been in spite of all the obstacles which mismanagement could invent. In 1825, the royal order of the omnimodas was sent to Cuba, but it was not ratified till 1836; it empowered the captain-general to rule at all times as if the island were in a state of siege. In March of the latter year a permanent military commission was established, which took cognizance of even ordinary offenses, but particularly of all offenses involving disloyalty. Previous to 1810, no one had ever been executed in Cuba for a political offense. In that year, Jose R. Aleman, an emissary of Joseph Bonaparte, was hanged in Havana. In the years 1845 to 1847, the slave trade was nearly brought to an end through the energy of Captain-General Valdez. But the increased consumption of sugar in Great Britain, in consequence of the reduction of duty, and the plac-

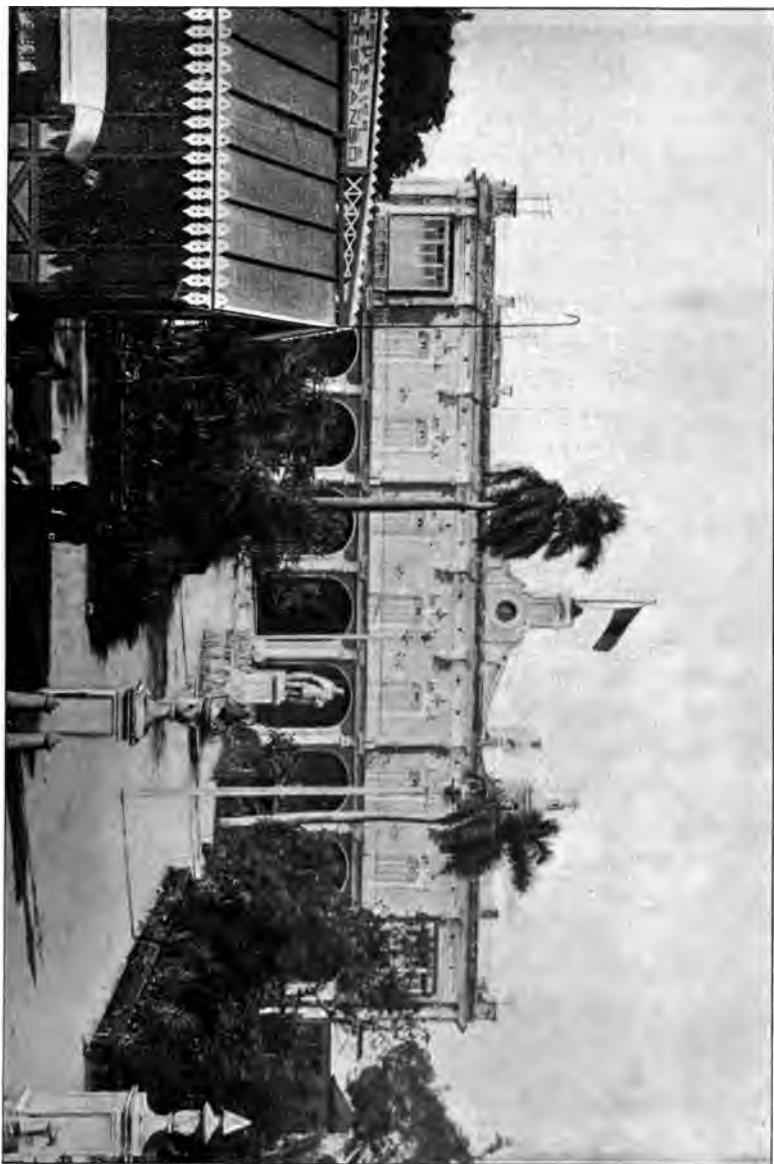
ing of foreign and British sugars on the same footing, afterward gave a new stimulus to the traffic. The efforts of the Spanish officials for its suppression were relaxed, and it attained a height greater than ever before. There has been more or less discontent in Cuba since the beginning of the present century, but the project of annexation to the United States was not mooted until the French republic was proclaimed in 1848. The United States, after the acquisition of Florida, began to take a deep interest in the future of the island. Fears were entertained that it might fall into the hands of the English or French, and Spain and those nations were informed that such a disposition of it would never be consented to. Its contiguity to the coasts of the United States, and its position at the entrance of the Gulf of Mexico, surrounded by twelve different nationalities, give it an importance which could not be disregarded. The American government expressed its willingness that it should remain a Spanish colony, but averred that it would never permit it to pass into other foreign hands. On this principle the American government opposed the contemplated invasion of Bolivar, and urged Spain to make peace with the Spanish American republics in order to save Cuba from a change in her political and social system. In 1825, a proposition was made by Spain that in consideration of certain commercial concessions the United States should guarantee to her the possession of Cuba:

but it was declined on the ground that such a course was contrary to the established policy of the United States. In 1848, President Polk authorized the American minister at Madrid to offer \$100,000,000 for Cuba, but the proposition was rejected in the most peremptory manner. In 1849, Narsico Lopez, a native Venezuelan, but who had lived long in Cuba, where he had been in the Spanish military service, came to the United States with a number of Cubans, having been implicated in revolutionary movements. He represented the creole population as dissatisfied with Spanish rule and ready for revolt and annexation to the United States. Recruits were collected for a descent upon the island. The first expedition, in 1849, was defeated by the vigilance of the United States authorities. A second attempt was made in 1850, and a landing effected at Cardenas; but it resulted in failure, and the party were driven to sea. In August, 1851, Lopez sailed from New Orleans in a steamer with 500 men, and landed at Morillo in the Vuelta Abajo. The expected uprising of the people did not take place, many of his men were killed in the engagements, fifty captured with Colonel Crittenden were shot in Havana, and the survivors, who, with their leader, had taken refuge in the woods, were soon made prisoners. Lopez was garroted in Havana, September 1; some others of his comrades were shot, but most of the survivors were transported and subsequently pardoned. In

1852, President Fillmore refused to join with France and Great Britain in a treaty guaranteeing to Spain the possession of Cuba. This rendered the Spanish government more alert in guarding against revolution within and expeditions from without, and led to occasional collisions with American citizens. The firing on the American steamer Black Warrior by a Spanish vessel of war, during the administration of President Pierce, threatened at one time to lead to hostilities. Since then the question of the acquisition of Cuba has entered frequently into American politics. In August, 1854, Messrs. Buchanan, Mason and Soule, United States ministers at London, Paris and Madrid respectively, held a conference at Ostend and Aix-la-Chapelle and drew up a statement popularly known as the Ostend manifesto. In this document, they argued that Cuba ought to belong to the United States, and that Spain would find its sale to be highly advantageous; and that in certain contingencies, such as the emancipation of the slaves by the Spanish government, the United States ought to possess themselves of the island by force. A proposition was urged in the United States Senate in the session of 1858-59 to place \$30,000,000 in the hands of the President, with a view to the acquisition of the island; but, after debate, it was withdrawn by its author, Mr. Slidell, of Louisiana. In the meantime, the agitation of the question of independence still continued in Cuba, and suspected per-

sons were arrested and imprisoned or banished without trial in the most arbitrary manner. In 1852, a conspiracy was discovered, and the leaders were condemned to death or to hard labor for life. In 1854, General Jose de la Concha, in anticipation of an uprising of the creole population, threatened to Africanize the island. He formed and drilled battalions of black troops, armed the native-born Spaniards and disarmed the Cubans, and made ready for a desperate defense. His energy probably prevented a revolution at the time. The Cuban junta in New York had made preparations for a descent on the coast, and had enrolled a large body of men; but, under the circumstances, the attempt was postponed. Pinto and Estrampes, Cubans taken with arms in their hands, were executed, and about 100 others were condemned to the galleys or deported. General Concha was created Marquis of Havana for his services. For the succeeding ten years the island was comparatively quiet; but the party of independence was only awaiting an opportunity to strike. On August 2, 1867, Francisco V. Aguilera, Manuel A. Aguilera and Francisco Maceo Osorio met in the house of the last-named in Bayamo, and formed a conspiracy to liberate Cuba from Spanish rule. A few months later their associates were so numerous that the leaders found it difficult to restrain them from striking prematurely. The revolutionary movement spread rapidly throughout the Eastern department. In

PALACE OF THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL.





Manzanillo, Carlos Manuel de Cespedes placed himself at its head; in Holguin, Belisario Alvarez; in Las Tunas, Vicente Garcia; in Jiguani, Donato Marmol, and in Santiago de Cuba, Manuel Fernandez. These men met in September, 1868, to set a day for the rising. At this meeting, all the deputies, with the exception of those from Manzanillo, insisted on the necessity for delaying action for at least six months, but no decision was arrived at. Another consultation was held on October 3, at which Francisco Aguilera urged a delay of sixteen days. His arguments were accepted as conclusive at the time, but two days afterwards it was agreed definitely that the blow should be struck on October 14. In the meantime, news of the projected outbreak had reached Havana. On October 9, a letter carrier was detained at Cespedes's sugar estate, La Demajagua, and found to be the bearer of an order for the arrest of the conspirators. Cespedes deemed it expedient to strike at once, and with only 200 badly-armed men at his command, he declared for independence on the field of Yara, October 10. Yara was defended by a Spanish force too strong for the insurgents, but on the 13th attacks were made on Las Tunas, Cauto Embarcadero, Jiguani, La Guisa, El Datil and Santa Rita. On the 18th, Bayamo was captured; the governor shut himself in the fort with a few men, but capitulated on the 22d. A Spanish force under Colonel Quiros, numbering about 800 infantry, besides cav-

alry and artillery, which had left Santiago de Cuba for the relief of Bayamo, was defeated and driven back to the former place with heavy loss. Camaguey soon followed the example of Yara. A republican form of government was organized, at the head of which were placed Salvador Cisneros Betancourt, Marquis of Santa Lucia, and Ignacio and Eduardo Agramonte. On November 25, General Count Valmaseda, who had been sent from Havana into the insurrectionary district with the San Quintin regiment, set out from Puerto Principe for Nuevitas by rail, but was attacked on the following day and forced to return, leaving his dead on the field. Five days later, he reached San Miguel, his force being harassed the entire distance. In December, Colonel Acosta y Alvear was defeated by the Cubans at Las Yaguas with heavy loss. Cespedes had proclaimed himself captain-general in the Eastern department, and early in December a conference between the leaders in both departments was held at Guaimaro, but no consolidation was effected. Arrangements were made, however, to act in concert. Meanwhile, Valmaseda, who was still at San Miguel, increased his force to 4000 men and marched on Bayamo. He received a severe check at Saladillo, but finally succeeded in crossing the Cauto. The Cubans in Bayamo, seeing the hopelessness of defense, burned the city. On December 26, General Quesada landed a cargo of arms and took command of the army of Camaguey. The

railroad between Nuevitas and Puerto Principe was cut by the insurgents, and the situation of the latter place became so critical that heavy reinforcements were sent thither from Havana. In October, 1868, Spain had 19,700 men of all arms in Cuba. Before the close of the year 20,000 additional troops had been sent from Europe, over 12,000 contra-guerrillas recruited on the island and 40,000 volunteers organized for the defense of cities. The volunteers, or national guard, were raised from Spanish immigrants, between whom and the native Cubans has always existed a bitter jealousy and enmity. In 1873 they numbered about 60,000 in the whole island, and 11,000 in Havana. In January, 1869, they committed fearful atrocities at Havana, shooting men, women and children in the Villanueva theatre, at the Louvre and at the sack of Aldama's house. In February, General Dulce, successor of Lersundi as captain-general, sent commissioners to the Cubans to open negotiations, offering them everything but independence, but met with no encouragement. On February 26, the "assembly of representatives of the centre" assumed its functions in Camaguey, and the first act of the new government was the abolition of slavery. In the same month, the Villas district rose against Spanish rule; and the insurgents, who numbered over 7000 men under General Ruloff, a Pole, were successful in several engagements. A national convention was held at Guaimaro, April 10,

at which were present Cespedes, chief of the provisional government of the Eastern department, the members of the Camagueyan assembly, the deputies from Villa Clara and representatives from Santo Espiritu, Holguin and Jiguani. A constitution was adopted. The republic was divided into four States: Oriente, Camaguey, Las Villas and Occidente. Full legislative powers were given to the chamber of representatives, to which was intrusted the nomination of a president and of a commander-in-chief of the army. Both of these officers were to hold their position at the will of the chamber, which had the power to remove them without previous indictment. The flag adopted was the one which had been unfurled by Aguero and Lopez. On April 11, Cespedes was elected president, and Manuel Quesada, commander-in-chief. On April 18, a Spanish force of 200 men was surrounded and most of the number were killed or captured. General Valmaseda had meanwhile issued a proclamation, decreeing that every male over fifteen years of age found in the country away from his home, without justifiable reason, should be shot; that every house on which a white flag was not displayed should be burned, and that all women and children found alone on their farms should be removed willingly or by force, either to Bayamo or Jiguani. In May, two important landings were made in aid of the insurgents: one under Rafael Quesada, in Camaguey, of men, arms and ammunition

from the steamer Salvador; the other under General Thomas Jordan, a graduate of West Point and an ex-officer of the Confederate service, at Mayari, of 175 officers and men, arms and ammunition for 2600 men, and ten pieces of artillery, from the steamer Perit. The former reached the interior without resistance; the latter was attacked at Canalito and again at El Ramon, but repulsed the enemy and reached his destination. The command of the army of the Oriente was at once assigned to General Jordan. Before the close of the year, General Quesada, having demanded extraordinary powers, was deposed by congress, and General Jordan appointed commander-in-chief. On January 1, 1870, the latter defeated a Spanish force under General Puella at Las Minas de Guaimaro. In August of the same year, the United States government offered to Spain their good offices for a settlement of the strife. Terms for the cession of the island to the Cubans were proposed by Mr. Fish, the United States Secretary of State, but Spain declined the offer. The volunteers, having in July expelled Captain-General Duce, General Caballero de Rodas was sent from Spain to replace him, together with a reinforcement of 30,000 men. In December, De Rodas was superseded by Valmaseda at the dictation of the volunteers. On November 27, 1871, eight medical students were condemned by a court-martial of volunteers for alleged desecration of the grave of a Spanish editor and shot. In December,

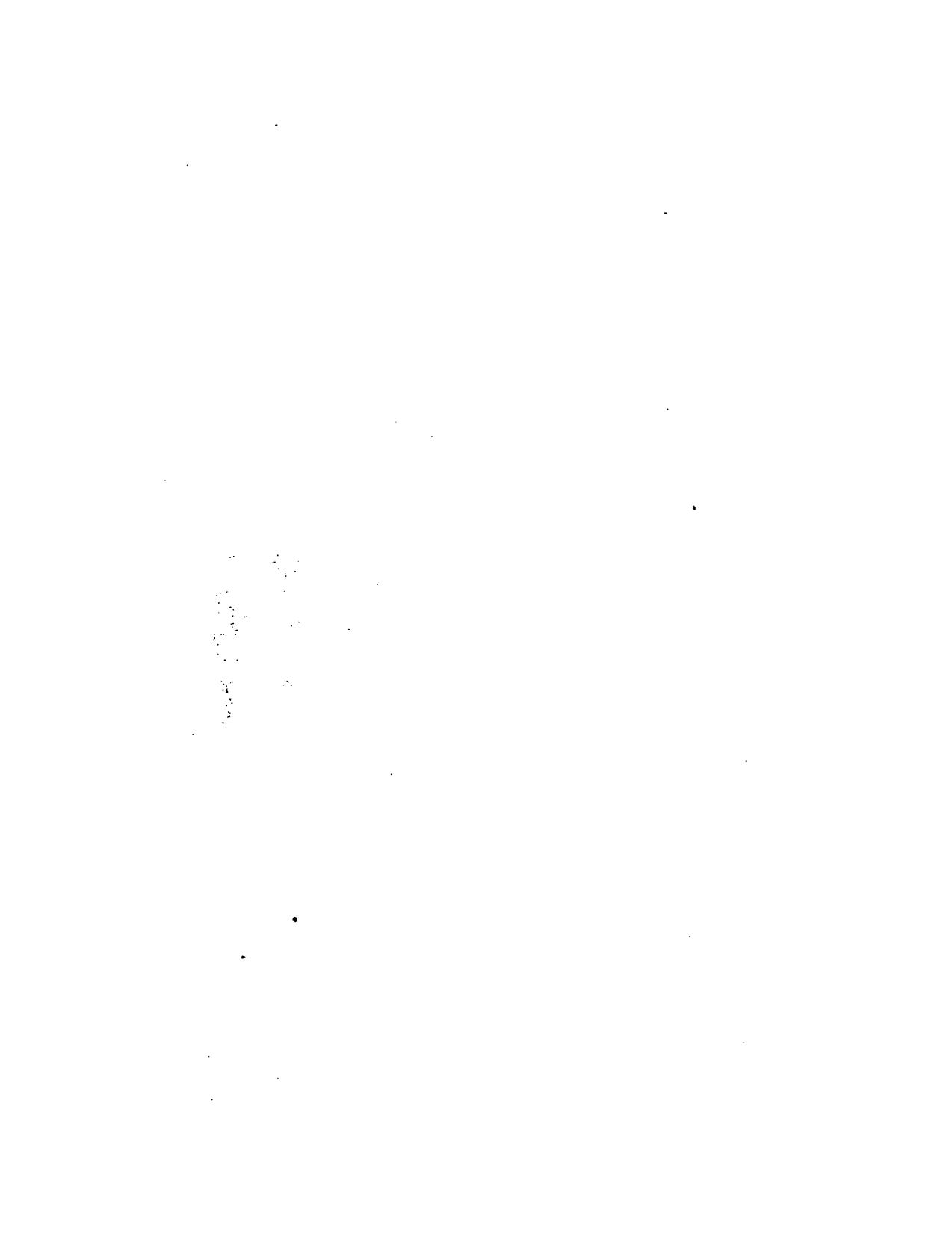
Valmaseda issued a proclamation, giving notice that every insurgent taken after January 15, 1872, would be shot, and all surrendering after that date be sentenced to perpetual imprisonment. In 1872, Valmaseda was replaced ad interim by Caballos, and in 1873 definitely succeeded by General Pieltain, who, in July, 1873, sent to President Cespedes to offer peace on condition that Cuba should remain a State of the Spanish republic; but the offer was declined. In November, 1873, General Pieltain was superseded by General Jovellar; and in December Cespedes was deposed from the presidency of the Cuban republic and succeeded by Salvador Cisneros. There have been sent to Cuba from Spain since October, 1868, 80,000 soldiers, of whom not more than 12,000 survive. According to official reports forwarded from Madrid by the United States minister, 13,600 Cubans have been killed in battle up to August, 1872, besides 43,500 prisoners whom the Spanish minister admitted to have been put to death. In the first three years of the war, up to October, 1871, Spain had expended, according to official statements, \$70,339,658.70.

THE "VIRGINIUS" MASSACRE OF 1873.

The reproductions shown from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper of the year 1873, illustrating the hor-

NATIVE FAMILY.





rible massacre of the crew of the American steamer *Virginius*, will be viewed with a sad interest by the majority of readers. The pictures will bring home to them at a glance the extreme barbarity of Spain's methods of warfare, and will justify the denunciations launched against that retrograde nation in the highest legislative council of this country, for it is hardly to be supposed that the bloodthirsty hidalgo has undergone any change of heart in the past twenty years. In fact, there are reasons to believe that, if anything, the practices of the present authorities in Cuba even surpass for refinement of cruelty the dark deeds of their predecessors of the seventies.

The story of the *Virginius*, briefly summed up, is as follows: The vessel, a side-wheel iron steamer, was purchased in New York in 1870 by the Cuban revolutionary junta, and was used for the transport of men and munitions to the coast of Cuba. She was entered as an American vessel, however, and continued to fly the Stars and Stripes on her various cruises. Her last trip was in the autumn of 1873, when she left Kingston, Jamaica, with 175 volunteers and a complete armament, and turned her helm toward the Cuban coast. Her captain, Joseph Fry, was a native of Louisiana, and had been specially engaged for the occasion. Her crew were, for the most part, New Yorkers, and were unaware of the object of the expedition. Unfortu-

nately, a damage to her machinery obliged the Virginian to seek temporary shelter in the harbor of Kingston, Jamaica, a delay which sufficed to put the Spanish authorities on her track, and when she made her second start the Spanish man-of-war Tornado swooped down upon her, and after a long chase, succeeded in forcing her to surrender. It should be said, however, that before this every object that might in the least excite suspicion, such as horses, arms and munitions, had been thrown into the sea, so that when the boarding party stepped on her deck they found themselves on board an ordinary merchantman, carrying the Stars and Stripes and cleared for Colon, with a clean bill of health! In spite of this, and of the apparent fact that the capture had been made in British waters, the Tornado towed her prize to Santiago de Cuba, arriving there the following day, November 1.

The ordinary procedure under similar circumstances, when evidence of wrong-doing was as slight as in the present case, would have been to undertake a thorough and painstaking judicial examination. Governor Burriel, of Santiago, thought otherwise, and so did his adherents, the Spanish volunteers. On the 2d of November, a drum-head court-martial was convened on board the Tornado, and the four leaders of the expedition, Generals W. A. C. Ryan, of New York; Jesus del Sol, Barnabe Varona and Pedro Cespedes, brother

of the president of the Cuban republic, were condemned to death on the charge of piracy. The sentence was carried into effect the following morning. Hardly had the smoke cleared from above the corpses of these four lovers of liberty when a second court-martial assembled to try the rank and file of the expedition, including the captain and crew of the *Virginius*. Here again the charge was piracy on the high seas, and again the same awful sentence was pronounced. It being impracticable to execute the entire body of prisoners at one time, the unfortunates were divided into batches, and on the morning of November 4, the first one, consisting of Captain Fry and thirty-six of his crew, many of them being boys in their teens, marched in solemn procession from the jail to the slaughterhouse, half a mile away, to fall victims to the vindictive hate of the Spanish tyrant.

Here I quote an eye-witness's description: "The sad procession halts when it has arrived at the place of doom, and forms a hollow square, with the victims in the midst. The line of soldiers next the slaughterhouse then opens and the prisoners are placed on the edge of the trench or moat, kneeling and bound, but not blindfolded, and having their faces turned to the wall. The clergy, after having conveyed to the 'miserable sinners' their Master's message of 'Peace on earth and good will towards men,' and having recom-

mended their souls to that mercy in another world denied to them in this one, retire to the centre of the square, where they take their place beside the colonel and the regimental staff. The commanding officer gives the fatal signal by waving his sword, the men fire, and the wretched objects of Spanish hate and vengeance fall headlong into the shallow trench, some dead, some dying, and others wounded, but alive. Then comes the crowning barbarity—a company of artillery, till now kept in reserve, gallops forward and crushes, with the broad and heavy wheels of the guns, dying, dead and wounded into one indistinguishable mass."

And these horrors the Spanish governor proposed to repeat day by day until the last man of the 200 odd prisoners of the *Virginius* had been done to death! But on November 5, a few hours before the time fixed for a third orgy of blood, a British warship, the *Niobe*, appeared in the harbor, and her captain promptly informed the governor that he would tolerate no further bloodshed until the matter had been referred to the home authorities. So the balance of the unfortunates were saved, and subsequently, when the United States threatened war, they, together with the *Virginius*, were surrendered by Spain, who also apologized for the outrage. But no apology, however abject, could bring to life again the poor mutilated forms in the trench at Santiago de Cuba; none could ever atone for the hid-

eous cruelty of Governor Juan Nepomuceno Burriel,
their butcher!

Is it any wonder that the people of the United States,
with this ghastly tragedy staring them in the face, re-
fuse to believe the Spanish protestations that they are
conducting their present war against the Cubans upon
humane principles?

CHAPTER III.

THE WAR OF 1895.

The peace of Zanjon proved to be no peace at all. The cancer continued to eat its way into the vitals of Cuba, and the result was the same as before. There was an insurrection in 1879 and again in 1880, and, in fact, there never was profound quiet. The Cubans soon found that under the election law that provided a poll tax of \$25, the voting strength of the native element was neutralized. It gave the ballot to the rich only, but, to make matters worse, it was so arranged that most of the Spaniards could escape payment. A firm would pay a single poll tax and vote all its members and employes. The franchise became a farce, and in the national election for members of the Spanish Cortes (or Congress) not over 53,000 votes were cast out of a population of over a million and a half. Again, the old plundering and extortion continued. The estimates of receipts and expenditures for the island each year were about \$25,000,000. Of this, the Spanish civil officials in the island took \$4,000,000, beginning with the Governor-General, whose salary was \$50,000 a year and found; the army took \$6,900,000;

GENERAL WEYLER.



GENERAL GOMEZ.

interest on the old Spanish national debt took \$10,500,000; pensions, \$2,200,000; treasury administration, \$708,000; judiciary, \$995,000, and so on, all the money being absorbed by Spaniards, except about \$725,000 for internal improvement, harbors, etc. Not a cent was spent for primary education.

Then there was always an annual deficit of from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 to be made up by the issue of so-called "Cuban bonds."

In 1885, our consul-general, Mr. Ramon O. Williams, in an official communication to the Department of State, gave the following picture of the condition of affairs in the island at that time:

"There is a system of oppression and torture which enters every phase of life, eats into the soul of every Cuban, mortifies, injures and insults him every hour, impoverishes him and his family from day to day, threatens the rich man with bankruptcy and the poor man with beggary. The exactions of the Spanish government and the illegal outrages of its officers are, in fact, intolerable. They have reduced the island to despondency and ruin. The government at Madrid is directly answerable for the misery of Cuba and for the rapacity and venality of its subordinates. No well-informed Spaniard imagines that Cuba will long continue to submit to this tyranny, or, at least, that she will long be able to yield this harvest to her oppressors. Spain cares nothing whatever for the interests, the

prosperity or the sufferings of her colony. The government does almost nothing to ameliorate any of the evils of the country. The police are everywhere insufficient and inefficient. The roads are no roads at all. Every interest which might enrich and improve the island is looked upon by officials as one more mine to exploit. Cuba is held solely for the benefit of Spain and Spanish interests, for the sake of Spanish adventurers. Against this all rebel in thought and feeling, if not yet in fact and deed. They wish protection from the grasping rapacity of Spain, and see no way to attain it except by our aid."

A calculation shows that for a series of years only one-eighteenth of the taxes wrung from the island in various ways was spent for its benefit, and, including the fines and extortions, not more than one twenty-fifth of what the island produced, and gave up yearly to the Spaniards, was used for the advantage of the people who earned it.

Every office of importance, or where there was any emolument, was filled by a Spaniard appointed from Spain. In fact, Cuban revenues were practically all swallowed up, either to meet national obligations of Spain, or to restore the fortunes of broken-down Spanish aristocrats, who made haste to fill their chests with plunder and give way to a new and equally hungry horde of successors.

In the early days of the administration of President

Harrison, Mr. Blaine, then Secretary of State, made an effort to secure the recognition of the independence of Cuba by Spain, through the purchase of the island by its citizens, with a guarantee of payment by the United States. Spain, however, refused to consider the proposition, and the effort was abandoned.

Finally, an alleged "reform," proposed by the Spanish government, proved to be the traditional "last feather" which broke the camel's back. It was proposed to administer the island by a Council, to be composed of thirty members, fifteen of whom should be appointed by Spain and fifteen elected by the Cubans. The governor-general was to be president ex-officio of this council, with the casting vote and the right of veto. Under the election laws it was apparent that at least twelve of the fifteen members for Cuba would be Spaniards, but in order to make Spanish control doubly sure, the governor-general was also to have the power to suspend any number of members of the Council not to exceed ten, at any time he wished, and for any period that might suit his pleasure.

The object of this Council of Administration was apparent. There were held in Europe over \$200,000,-000 of Cuban bonds. This Cuban debt had not been contracted for internal improvements in the island or for anything else beneficial to Cuba. These bonds covered loans made by Spain for expenses in her military operations against Mexico, Peru and San Do-

mingo, and for other purposes, with which the island had nothing to do, any more than any other part of the kingdom. These bonds were secured by the revenue of Cuba, and were of doubtful legality. It was alleged that the object of the government in forming this Council of Administration was to make a new issue of Cuban bonds for some \$300,000,000, to be taken by an English syndicate, and wipe out the old debt and include another \$100,000,000. Then this new Cuban bond was to be approved by the proposed Cuban Council of Administration. This outrage was sufficient to arouse the Cubans to the present rebellion.

The insurrection was planned in New York city, and its chief spirit was Jose Marti, who was a man of great power as a speaker and writer. He had been twice banished by the Spanish government, but had escaped and taken up his residence in New York city, where he kept alive the cause of Cuba, and prepared for the uprising which occurred at various points in the eastern part of the island, February 24, 1895, under Maso, Betancourt and other patriot leaders. The Spanish government at once took active steps to crush the revolt. Governor-General Calleja issued an order suspending constitutional guarantees, which was followed by the arrest of Cuban suspects in various parts of the country and their banishment to the African penal colony. The revolutionists did not undertake any general operations, awaiting the coming of Go-

mez, Marti and the Maceo brothers and other exiled leaders, who arrived in April. At the same time, Calleja was recalled and General Martinez de Campos was sent out to the command, great confidence being placed in his military and administrative ability. He sailed for the island, April 3. By this time the revolution was under full headway, and the Cubans were everywhere successful, seizing the garrisons, and in a few weeks taking practical possession of the province of Santiago de Cuba.

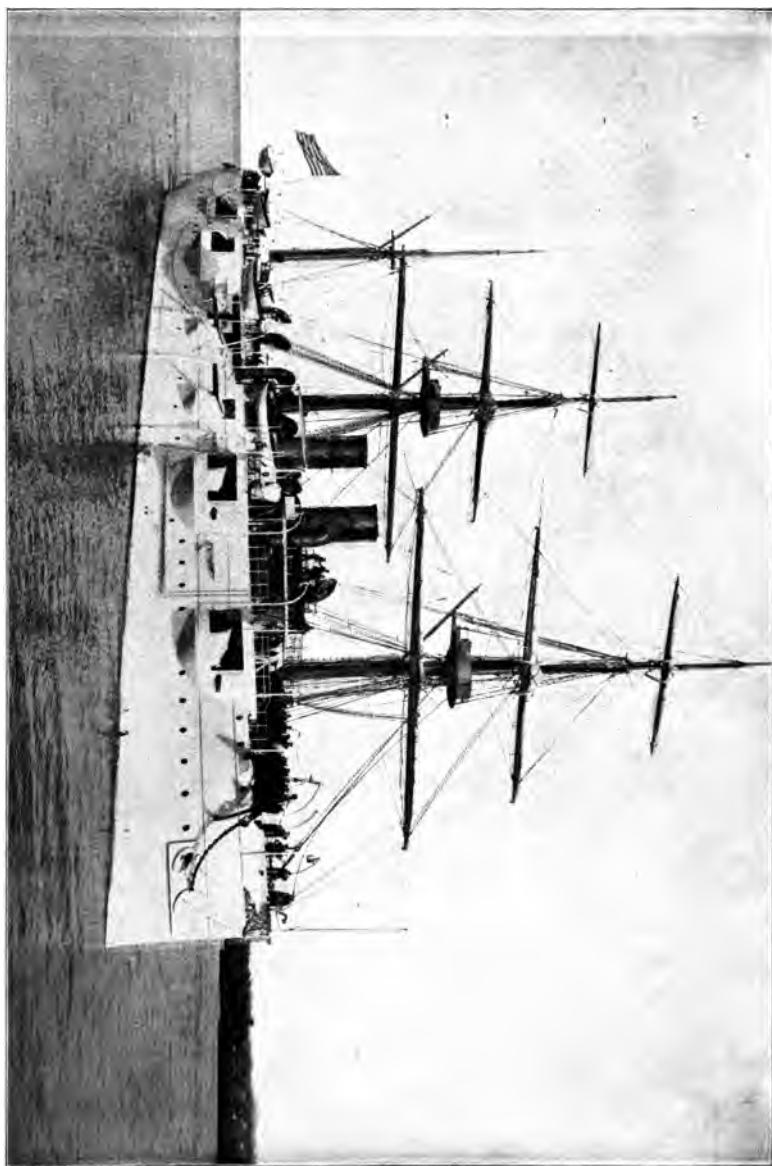
Antonio Maceo took command of the forces, and sent his brother Jose to meet Gomez and Marti at Guatanamo. All of the exiled generals met in safety and held a conference, at which the campaign under Gomez and Antonio Maceo was decided upon. They moved toward Camaguey, going first to Holguin, the people rising in their support everywhere. Early in May, Gomez and Marti issued their proclamations and made preparations for constituting the provisional government. They met General Maso coming with a force from Bayamo and Manzanillo, and upon their return were attacked by the Spaniards on the 19th of May at Dos Rios, where Jose Marti was killed. The death of Marti was the only great reverse experienced by the insurgents so far during the war. General Campos decided to confine the rebels within the province of Santiago, and threw two cordons or trochas across the island to keep the revolutionists out of Pu-

erto Principe. Early in June, however, Gomez and his lieutenant successfully flanked him out of these two lines, and before the month was over had full possession of the interior of Puerto Principe, being joined by Betancourt and his followers.

After some weeks of apparent inaction on both sides, Campos decided to move into Santiago and get in the rear of Gomez, and crush him between two columns. He met Maceo and Rabi near Bayamo, July 24, and the Spaniards were defeated under his own eye. In August, the Cubans, under Jose Maceo, Cebreco and Perez, beat the Spaniards at various points, and compelled the practical abandonment of the eastern part of the island by the government forces.

OFFICIALS OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC.

The death of Marti had delayed the civil organization of the republic, but the constituent assembly met September 13, in Camaguey, and adopted a constitution, and the following day organized the government by the election of Salvador Cisneros Betancourt, of Puerto Principe, President; Bartolome Maso, of Manzanillo, Vice-President; Carlos Roloff, of Santa Clara, Secretary of War; Mario Menocal, of Matanzas, Assistant Secretary of War; Rafael Portuondo y Tamay, of Santiago de Cuba, Secretary of Foreign Affairs; Fermin Valdez Domingues, of Havana, Assistant Sec-



"NEWARK" (Protected Steel Cruiser).

retary of Foreign Affairs; Severo Pina, of Espiritu Santo, Secretary of the Treasury; Joaquin Castillo y Duany, of Santiago de Cuba, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Santiago Canizares, of Remedios, Secretary of the Interior; Carlos Dubois, of Baracoa, Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Maximo Gomez was elected general-in-chief of the army, and Antonio Maceo, lieutenant-general.

The President formerly was the Marquis of Santa Lucia, but he renounced his title in 1868 and joined the revolution. His estates were confiscated, but were partially restored after the peace of 1878. The Betancourt family has long been one of the most illustrious in the island. Maso, the Vice-President, was born in Manzanillo, where he has long been a leading citizen. General Roloff is a native of Poland, but came to Cuba when a youth, and settled at Cienfuegos, whence, in 1869, he led a battalion composed of the sons of the principal Cuban families of the place, and served through the "Ten Years' War" with distinction. Mario Menocal is a relative of Engineer Menocal, of the United States navy, who has long been prominently associated with the Isthmus Canal project. The Secretary of Foreign Affairs is a member of an old and aristocratic family of Santiago de Cuba, and his assistant, Dr. Domingues, has been a leading physician of Havana, who was banished to the penal colony at Ceuta during the last war, but allowed to return after

the peace of Zanjon. Severo Pina belongs to a family of great wealth and long established in the island. His assistant, Dr. Duany, is one of the men who went as a physician on the relief expedition sent out to look for De Long and his people, who were trying to reach the North Pole on the ill-fated Jeannette. No family in the island is prouder than his. General Maximo Gomez is a native of San Domingo, of Spanish descent, but has long been as much identified with Cuba as one of its own people. Lieutenant-General Antonio Maceo is a colored man, and of such force and attainments as to deserve a place on the indestructible tablets of the history of his race beside the names of Toussaint L'Ouverture and Frederick Douglass. He entered the ranks when a young man, in the ten years' war, and by ability and bravery rose to the grade of a general. He has devoted his life to the service of his race and his native island. He has the marks of twenty-one wounds received on the field of battle. Such is his acknowledged force of character that members of the proudest families of Cuba compose his staff.

The constituent assembly divided the island into States and districts, passed laws to regulate marriages, collect taxes and fulfill other functions of government. Senor Thomas Estrada Palma, who had succeeded Jose Marti as head of the Cuban Junta in New York, was elected minister plenipotentiary and agent abroad.

Four States were set off and called Oriente, Cama-

guey, Las Villas or Cabanacan and Occidente. The State of Oriente comprises practically the same territory as the province of Santiago de Cuba. The State of Camaguey lies next west of Oriente, and includes all of the province of Puerto Principe up to the military road. The State of Las Villas or Cabanacan lies next west of Camaguey, and comprises most of the province of Santa Clara. Its western boundary begins at the Bay of Cochinos on the southern shore, and follows the river courses nearly north to the other coast. All the rest of the island, including the provinces of Matanzas, Havana and Pinar del Rio, is the State of Occidente.

During the summer, the great province of Santa Clara (Las Villas), in the middle of the island, the richest and most populous after Havana, had risen in rebellion. General Gomez issued an order, forbidding the grinding of sugar-cane, in order to paralyze the financial resources of Spain, and in November he set out to enforce it. General Campos had made another cordon of posts from Jucaro to Moron, to keep Gomez out of the province of Santa Clara. The insurgent chiefs made sport of it, and soon were massed in the district of Remedios, burning the plantations of all who would not obey the order not to make sugar. Another attempt was made to head off the westward movement of Gomez and Maceo, by a new cordon extending from Cienfuegos through Las Cruces and La-

jas. This line, like the rest, was pierced, and the Spaniards fell back from one position to another until the province of Matanzas surrendered, and after the engagement at Coliseo, December 24, 1895, Campos himself, the hero of Zanjon, the conqueror of Morocco and the Pacifier of Spain, fled incontinently before the thirsty machetes of the despised Cubans to a place of safety within the defenses of Havana, while the energetic Maceo galloped at will down the Vuelto Abajo, and Gomez held the capital in a state of siege.

Such was the situation when, on January 17, Campos sailed back to Spain in disgust, and was succeeded by Governor-General Valeriano Weyler, a man recommended for the place by his notorious reputation for cruelty. He arrived February 10, and began issuing a series of proclamations, which culminated in one wherein he provided court-martial and the death penalty for such a long list of actual and implied offenses against the power of Spain as to inaugurate a reign of terror.

An official Spanish report, published February 29, at Madrid, gives the following statistic of the first year of the war: Loss of life on the Spanish side, 3877, of which 286 were killed in battle, 119 died of wounds, 3190 of yellow fever and 282 of other diseases. The expenditures was placed at \$75,000,000. Spanish regulars to the number of 120,000 had been sent to the island, in addition to the Spanish volunteers. There

is a very common misunderstanding as to these volunteers. They are Spaniards, chiefly young men who have come out to the island and found employment as clerks and bookkeepers in Cuban cities. They are drilled, uniformed and armed at their own expense, but under the patronage of wealthy Spanish officials and business men. They are a reckless and unruly militia force, and are hated above all others by the Cubans, who charge upon them, especially, the killing of prisoners and other barbarities.

A detailed account of the recent operations of the Cuban army under General Antonio Maceo, just received from headquarters in the field by Minister Estrada Palma, throws an entirely different aspect on the invasion of the west than that sought to have been conveyed by the Spanish official reports.

Accompanying the document was a letter from Brigadier-General Miro, chief of Maceo's staff, from which the following are extracts:

General Main, who temporarily succeeded Martinez Campos in the command of the island, attempted to trap Maceo, but not only were all the Spanish columns which he sent against our troops defeated, but we broke his military lines and passed from Pinar del Rio to Havana. When General Weyler took command of the island, he solemnly declared he was glad he had remained in and near the province of Havana, because he would be better able to crush our forces, the terri-

tory being so small. But General Maceo upset all of his plans and overran the two provinces.

Later, General Weyler asserted that our troops were demoralized, and that we were returning to the east; that General Gomez was shamefully running away to Siguanca; that Maceo, with scarcely any men, was also retreating, and that there was nothing left of the Cuban army in the province but a mere handful of bandits. While General Weyler was publishing these falsehoods, General Gomez had united his column with that of General Bandera, and on the very day named he was with General Maceo in the province of Matanzas.

The detailed account of Maceo's operations states, in part, as follows:

GENERAL MACEO'S OPERATIONS.

After the battles of Paso Real, Candelaria and Rio Hondo, we fought on the 9th of February, near San Cristobal, against the column of Colonel Hernandez; the enemy was obliged to take refuge in Candelaria; our forces remained encamped at the seat of battle.

On the afternoon of the 11th, we had a battle on the plantation Nueva Empresa, causing the enemy considerable loss. Among their wounded was the chief of a column, General Cornell. On the 12th, we passed the province of Havana, crossing by the road and railroad near Artemisa, where the general headquarters



of the Spanish were situated. We completely fooled the military combination of the then Captain-General Sabas Marin, who had a great plan of intercepting us. On the 17th and 18th, we approached the capital, encamping in Santa Amalia. We attacked the city of Jaruco at 8 P. M. the 18th. At midnight the town was in our possession. Two hundred buildings were burned, and we captured eighty rifles and 2000 rounds of ammunition.

We left the next day and met General Maximo Gomez. The enemy were encountered near the sugar plantation of Moralito, and were fought for half an hour by the general-in-chief. The battle lasted two hours. Our losses were four dead and thirty-eight wounded, among the latter being the brave Colonel Basilio Guerra. The forces of General Maceo encamped in the plantation Carmen, a league from Catalina de Guines, and General Gomez encamped on the railroad from Guines to Havana.

At 7 A. M. on the 20th, we renewed our march. We stopped about one-half a league from the hill of Gapo, to do some scouting. Presently, some shots were heard. General Maceo, with 200 cavalry and his escort, waited for the enemy. The fire was at short range, and the Spanish troops were completely shot down. When the Spaniards entered the plantation El Gado, they gave themselves up to all kinds of out-

rages, assassinating the owner and his family and several other peaceful people.

TWO PROVINCES OVERRUN.

On the 21st, 22d, 23d and 24th, we paraded through the provinces of Havana and Matanzas. General Gomez marched toward Colon, General Maceo remaining in Coliseo, where the military combination of General Martinez Campos so signally failed on the 23d of December of last year. On the first anniversary of the revolution not a shot was heard.

Since General Weyler has taken command of the island, the revolutionary ranks are increasing wonderfully. Many women offer their services. On the 25th we had a fierce battle in the sugar plantation of "La Peria." It lasted two long hours, and was renewed in the afternoon in the hills of Guemacaro. On the 29th, we entered Santa Cruz, a town situated on the north-east coast, garrisoned by a detachment of thirty men, who were made prisoners and afterward given their liberty. Thirty rifles and 1600 rounds of ammunition were captured. On the 1st of March, we returned toward the centre of the province of Havana. On the 2d, we had a severe battle with the column of Aldecoa in Nazareno, which was attacked by the cavalry of the east and the escort of the General. In the afternoon, on Rio Bayamo, we again fought the columns of Al-

decoa and Linares. On the 3d of March we returned to Santa Malia, where we were informed that there were 15,000 soldiers against us on the previous day. We only had 400 horsemen with which to withstand them

On the 5th, we again entered the province of Matanzas. At 6 A. M., on the 7th, we started for the Plantation "Diana," where General Lacret was encamped. As we advanced, the enemy fired upon us. General Maceo, by rapid flank movements, attracted the enemy to a position favorable to us, and, having obtained his object, was not long in routing them.

MARCHED THROUGH THE SWAMPS.

On the 9th, at 3 A. M., we commenced our march to return to the province of Havana, and we encamped at Galcon, where we learned that the general-in-chief and General Quintin Bandera, with the infantry of the east, were very near. At 8 A. M. of the 10th, the forces were formed for review to receive the general-in-chief, and the brave infantry of the east were received in our camp with great enthusiasm. An hour afterward the general-in-chief, with his escort and some cavalry, countermarched toward the centre of Matanzas, the infantry of the east remained with us for a second invasion of Pinar del Rio. We marched

across the Cienega de Zapata, and at 4 P. M. we encamped to the south of Nueva Paz, province of Havana.

On the 11th, at 7 A. M., we commenced our march, passing near the plantation Nueva Paz. Our vanguard and the centre crossed without any trouble, but our rear guard had to fight against the column which came out from the plantation Nueva Paz. We encamped at 4 P. M. at Jicotea. At 7 A. M. of the 12th, we started and proceeded by swampy roads, almost impossible of transit, so that the enemy would not perceive our advance through the province of Havana. At 6 P. M., we encamped in the plantation Luisi, having left behind us and at a good distance over 25,000 Spanish soldiers.

It was General Maceo's aim to lower the prestige of the famous Weyler by attacking the fortified town of Batabano, so that the operation would have the greatest possible importance. We had heard that Batabano was another Sebastopol, and that the demoralized Cuban troops would not be able to cross the fortified lines. At 7 P. M., the infantry of the east, in three attacking columns, suddenly went into the town, and destroyed and burned everything in their path. We captured fifty rifles, provisions, many hundred rounds of ammunition, and our infantry obtained new clothing.

AGAIN TO THE WEST.

On the 14th, we renewed our march toward the west. At 7 A. M. of the 15th, we started again from the territory of Pinar del Rio, passing the so-called terrible "trocha," by Majana. On the 16th, we encamped in the plantation Galope, between Mangas and Candelaria. At about 2.30 P. M., in the midst of great rain, our pickets discovered a Spanish column marching toward Candelaria. General Maceo quickly placed himself at the head of the infantry and marched to meet them. The suddenness of the attack demoralized the Spaniards, and they abandoned the position which they had occupied on the road and retreated in disorder. General Maceo tried to force them to the left, so that they would be cut down by the Cuban cavalry, which he had ordered placed there; but the orders which he had given were misinterpreted by his aide-de-camp, and the Spaniards found the road clear to Candelaria. To this they owe their salvation. Nevertheless, there were soldiers of our forces who caught Spanish soldiers with their own hands, and we captured a great many grenades and mules and horses laden with ammunition.

In the report of General Maceo of the 19th, he declares his satisfaction at the conduct of our troops in the battles of Galope, Nueva Empresa and Cayabajos,

and hopes that they will be examples for new and decisive victories.

The present strength of the insurgent army is close to 43,000 men. Cubans themselves estimate the number of men in the field as high as 60,000 men, but even if unarmed camp-followers, men in charge of provision trains, hospitals and camps were counted it is doubtful if that number could be found actually in service.

There are thousands of Cubans who would willingly cast their lot with the patriot army, but lack of arms and ammunition prevents.

The insurgent forces operate, as a rule, in zones or districts, and are organized on military lines. The columns of Gomez, Maceo, Lacret and Banderas are, however, limited to one province, but pass from one to another under direct orders from Gomez.

The commander-in-chief is now in Matanzas, and the others has reinvaded Havana province.

The following is a statement of the strength and location of the forces of the principal Cuban leaders:

Maximo Gomez, in Matanzas, 8000; Antonio Maceo, Miro, Zayas, others in Havana, 5000; Serafin Sanchez, in Santa Clara, 4000; Jose Maceo, Bojas, Rodriguez, in Santiago, 3500; Lacret, in Havana, 3000; Quintin Banderas, in Havana, 3000; Masso, Alvarez, Castillo, Mestre, Nunez, in Havana, 3000; Delgado, Bermudez, Sanchez, others Pinar del Rio, 2500; Aguirre, Diaz, Hernandez, Palacio, in Havana, 2500;

INTERIOR OF THE CASINO.



Mayia Rodriguez, others Camaguey, 1500; Reyes, Benitez, Vara, Wilson, Mendieta, Santiago, 1000; Rafael Cardenos, in Matanzas, 800; Verrona, Ruperto, Sanchez, others in Pinar del Rio, 800; Oliva, others in Pinar del Rio, 600; Clotilde Garcia, in Matanzas, 600; Carillo, Joaquin Garcia, others in Santiago, 600; Rolloff, Pancho Perez, in Santa Clara, 500; Mirabel, Ferrier, Veita, in Santa Clara, 500; Rego, Sixto, Roque, Palao Sanchez, in Santa Clara, 500; Cortuna, Vidal, Juan Bravo, in Santa Clara, 400; Matagas, in Matanzas, 400; Robau, Cobreco, Ruen, Planas, in Santiago, 400; Borroto, Lencho, Sardinas, Eduardo, Garcia, in Matanzas, 400; Aulst, Morjon, Dimas Martinez, Sotolongo, in Matanzas, 400; Villanneca, Acosta, Aguilar, others in Havana, 300; Munoz, Chapotin, Socorro, Lino Perez, in Santa Clara, 200—total, 42,800.

The distribution according to provinces is: Havana, 16,800; Matanzas, 8600; Santa Clara, 6500; Santiago, 5500; Pinar del Rio, 3900; Camaguey, 1500—total, 42,800. In addition to the above, there are innumerable local bands of from fifteen men to fifty, or even 100. These do not form part of the fighting force, and should not be counted as part of the army. Their chief functions are to carry out the orders of Gomez prohibiting the grinding of cane, the movement of troops and supplies by rail, the shipment of provisions to cities, and the suppression of "plateades," who rob, burn and commit other crimes.

The Cuban "army of liberation," as it is called, has grown to its present size in the face of almost insurmountable difficulties. From the beginning it has been outnumbered by the army of Spain in the ratio of never less than four to one. It has escaped annihilation in many encounters when ammunition ran out. It has lived on forage, been almost constantly under fire, and is today a reckless, dare-devil army, with but one idea in view, and that is to free Cuba. What comes after is not given a thought.

CHAPTER IV.

CUBANS APPEAL TO US.

President Cisneros-Betancourt Asks Recognition.—Calls in Liberty's Name.

Cuban Executive Headquarters, Cubitas, February 4.—Cisneros-Betancourt, President of the Cuban Republic, gave today this appeal to the people of the United States:

CUBA'S APPEAL.

Republic of Cuba, Executive Headquarters,
Cubitas Mountain, February 1.

To the American People:

The infant and struggling Republic of Cuba appeals to the grand and powerful Union of American States.

Undoubtedly this action is most unusual in the history of nations, but because of the international standing of the Cuban Republic, or more correctly, because it has no recognized place among the powers of the world, we are thus compelled to appeal informally and through the medium of the press directly to the people.

Indeed, it is that international standing that we are

now seeking; that we now ask the American nation to give us, and that we pray it will see fit to grant in the name of liberty and of justice.

Why do we ask the American people alone to hear us, and why do we not address this document to the entire world? The answer is well known. We call to the people who have themselves suffered oppression and felt the iron heel of the tyrant. We call to the nation of heroes who threw off the slavish yoke, and who signaled to the downtrodden of the earth that the beacon-light of liberty in America would never grow dim, but would throw its rays across the oceans to strugglers for freedom in other lands.

We call to the nation that has ever greeted with open arms the honest exiles from far and near; the nation that gave hope to Poland and succor to Ireland; the nation that drove monarchy from Mexico and Hawaii, and so nobly and faithfully shielded our Southern sister, Venezuela.

To whom would we appeal, if not to America? To what land, if not to that of Washington, of Jefferson, of Monroe, of Jackson, of Grant, of Blaine, of Cleveland, and of the immortal Lincoln?

The present is Cuba's second struggle for liberty. From 1868 to 1878—ten long, suffering years—a little band of patriots fought gallantly on. While the wrongs then were as great as they now are, the Cuban people did not rise, as they have risen in this war, to throw off

the Spanish yoke. The thirst for liberty which permeates the island today was unknown then except to a small minority of the people, and after ten years of warfare the end came, but it did not bring success.

THE SUFFERINGS OF CUBA.

But even then Spain made promises to the Cuban people that she did not propose to fulfill. And from that time the island has suffered as no other section of the earth has in the same period. Spain claims she holds Cuba by divine right. Such were her pretensions with regard to all her American possessions, but a divine hand liberated those same possessions, and to-day they are free and independent republics of the New World.

The Spaniards have raised the cry abroad that the Cuban rebellion is merely an uprising of negroes. There is no truth in this as stated. It is not a negro uprising, nor a white uprising, but a rebellion of the people of Cuba against a cruel and unrelenting despot. But even if it were a negro rebellion, would the people of the United States frown upon it?

The answer to that question is told by the firing upon Fort Sumter, the war of 1861 to 1865, the millions of graves in the Southland, and the God-inspired proclamation of Abraham Lincoln. Was not the freedom of the black man announced in that undying language

used by the martyr President? And did not the blood of a million American freemen stain grassy mounds in the now loyal and patriotic South, writing in eternal words the emancipation of the black man?

The world knows the noble yet fearful history. Spain knows it, and when her representative in the capital of the United States says the Cuban rebellion is a negro movement entirely, he not only falsifies, but he insults the memory of the grand army of the dead.

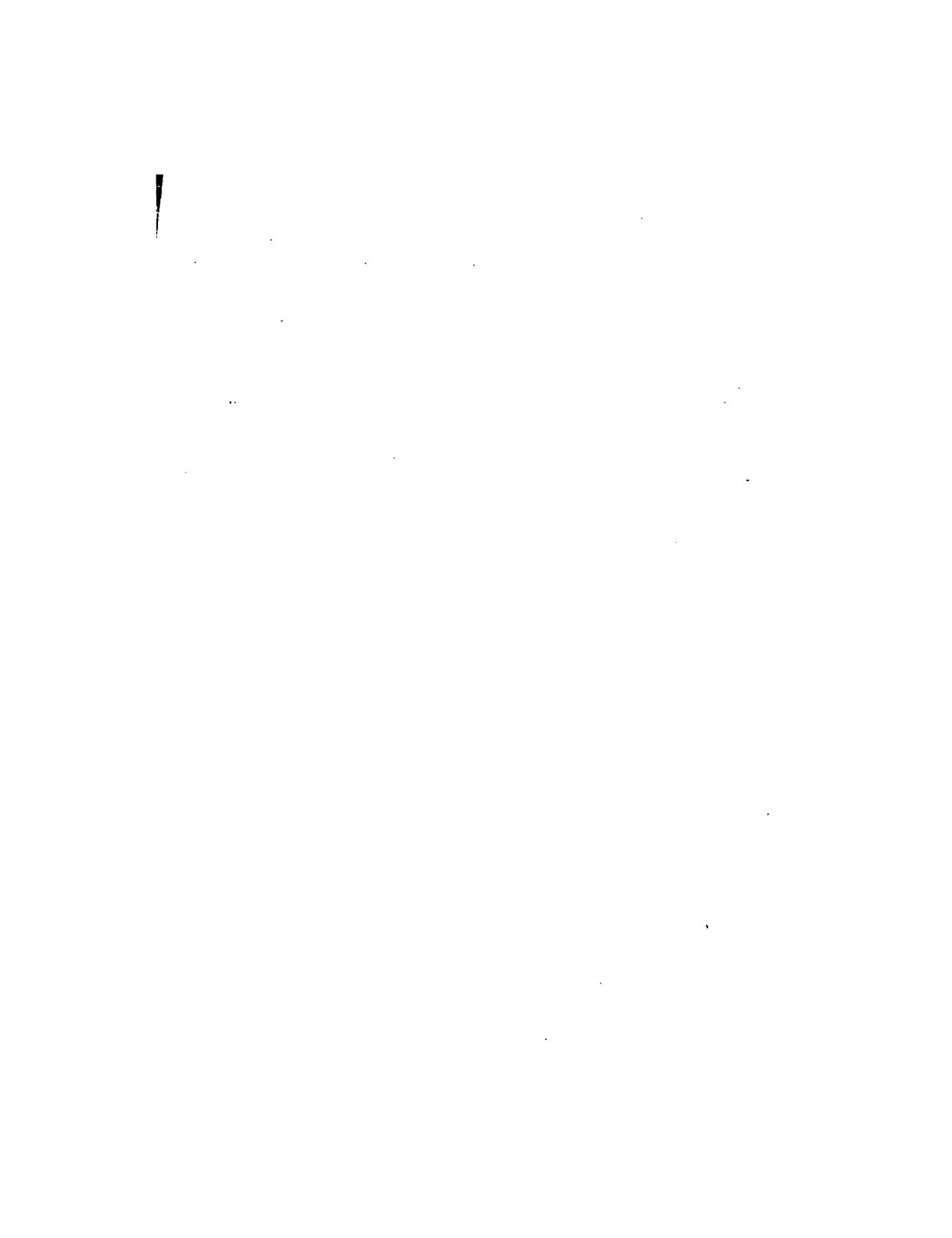
We are proud to have our colored brothers with us in this glorious struggle for freedom; for Cuba, when free, will be like the land of Washington, where every man worthy of citizenship will be accorded the full rights of civil and religious liberty.

WANT BELLIGERENT RIGHTS.

We ask the American people to grant us, through their President and Congress, those rights of belligerency to which, according to the laws of war and of nations, we are entitled. Our armies have marched whither they might throughout the entire island, and for weeks have threatened the stronghold of Spain's power in Cuba.

Must we capture Havana and drive Spain's hirelings across the sea before we are even given the right as men to fight for that priceless gift which God destined should be universally divided among His children?





Must we gain our independence before we are accorded the sanction of the world to labor for it?

The Cuban Republican Government of the island is a firmly established institution. Covering considerably over one-half of the area is the civil branch of our authority, with regularly-appointed governors of different sections, prefectos in sub-division, and so forth. Of course, Spanish formalities are still followed to a great extent in the administration of the local governments, for a complete change of method in a few months would be too radical.

Here, in Cubitas, are the head officers and chief departments of the republic. Here we are able, and most willing, to receive representatives of the United States or other nations.

On all grounds of diplomatic and international usage the Cuban Republic is entitled not alone to recognition of belligerent rights, for its armies now in the field, but to actual independence. Still, we do not ask that the latter be accorded us at present. All we wish now is to be looked upon by the government of the United States as men and soldiers, battling for their birthright. We do not wish to appear in the eyes of the world like bandits and rabble.

IS SPAIN ENTITLED TO CONSIDERATION?

Is Spain entitled to consideration at the hands of a

modern, civilized and highly progressive nation? Does her misrule of Cuba for a century commend her to the hearts and minds of men? Are her hirelings here to lift up and educate the Cuban and make his beloved island prosperous? Under the accursed flag of Castile, will not freedom's muffled shrieks still be heard on the American hemisphere? Will not the continuance of her supremacy in Cuba mean the perpetuation of mediaeval institutions, the downtreading of right and equity, and the upholding of all that to men of the nineteenth century is debased and barbaric?

People of the free and glorious United States, Cuba appeals to you! She asks that you raise your voice in her behalf. She asks that you announce to the world that at least as against the tyrant she be given an equal chance.

Cuba, the bleeding, appeals to her American sisters. She does it in the name of God, of justice, of civilization and of America.

SALVADOR CISNEROS-BETANCOURT.

CHAPTER V.

WEYLER'S VAIN EFFORTS TO COPE WITH THE CUBANS.

Havana, March 21.

No unprejudiced person can any longer deny that hitherto the efforts of the captain-general to cope with the rebellion have proved eminently unsuccessful. The army, with a few ultra-loyal Spaniards, rack their invention to smooth over the situation, while optimist newspapers improve upon the official reports of victories. When, however, we see such victories followed by the unchecked progress of the insurgents, it is not difficult to read between the lines. Nor is it even assuming too much to prophesy that the reign of Weyler will be brief. Martinez Campos, a soldier, and a brave one, to whose capacity as a commander is largely due the existence of the present reigning house of Spain, managed to weather the storm for ten months. He had not the honest support of his military colleagues, and was further impeded by secret and implacable intrigue. Under the circumstances, his failure was hardly to be wondered at. His successor, however, was the chosen of the most influential Spanish factions in Cuba, while the soldiers considered him as

a man after their own heart. We were told of his surpassing energy, of his exceptional courage and of his indomitable resolution. Of these we have seen nothing, unless it be an energy to frame oppressive proclamations, a courage to endure a guilty conscience, and a resolution to sustain the crimes of his subordinates. The last few days have shown more than ever the worthlessness of his plans. Gomez has returned to the province of Havana; Maceo, Quinton, Banderas and Periguito Perez have triumphed in Pinar del Rio and Nunez and de Roban continue to harass Santa Clara. Among the many brave leaders of the insurgents there is perhaps none who has shown more heroism than young de Roban. After the breaking out of the revolution, he was one of the first to join the standard of independence. At that time he was engaged to be married, yet with him the call of duty was paramount over every selfish consideration. After having served for some months with conspicuous credit, he was sent with his command into the neighborhood of his fiancee. The men hitherto, it may be imagined, had not paid much attention to their appearance, but now there was a regular conventional dress parade. A barber was requisitioned, accoutrements were furbished up, and weather-beaten sombreros were ornamented with brilliant ribands. When the metamorphosis was complete, de Roban placed himself at the head of his dashing troop, and went in state to call upon

the lady of his affections. His march was a triumph, as everywhere he was attended by crowds of enthusiastic people, who had long known him, and who now hailed him as a distinguished champion. How he sped in his wooing may be gathered from the fact that an orderly was soon dispatched for the village cura, and that there was a wedding which fairly rivaled that of Commacho, so often and so fondly recalled by the renowned Sancho.

Since then, the Señorá de Roban has accompanied her husband throughout the campaign, sharing the hard fare and the dangers of the men, and adding another to the noble band of patriotic Cuban women, who vie with their husbands and brothers in answering fidelity to their native land.

Last Tuesday the insurgents gained an important victory. The columns of Colonel Inclan appear to have fallen into an ambuscade upon their march near Candelaria, when Maceo upon one flank and Banderas on the other poured in a heavy fire, inflicting serious loss. Nor was the misfortune confined to men alone, for it is now commonly believed that the Cubans succeeded in capturing some pieces of artillery, after a severe encounter with the gunners, who defended the cannon with great bravery. The same patriot forces routed Colonel Francis close to Guanajay, and compelled him to fall back for support upon the brigade of General Linares at Artemisa. That the wounded in

both these engagements far exceed the official reports can be gathered from the large ambulance train which was sent out to the ground yesterday morning from Havana. The increasing audacity of the insurgents, the comparative ease and impunity with which they roam from one end of the island to the other, and the burning towns and villages which everywhere mark the line of their advance bear witness to the incapacity of the present administration. Nor do we hear anything further of that cane-crushing which was to have followed immediately after General Weyler's arrival. What has escaped the flames stands still uncut upon the fields, serving as a refuge for homeless wanderers, or, as in the case of Dr. Delgado, as a hospital for unfortunate victims.

The elections, too, do not progress, and merely prove a bone of contention between the rival parties. Apropos, an amusing thing connected with these elections occurred here on Thursday evening. It was reported that there was to be a conservative demonstration against the office of the "Discusion," a paper of decidedly liberal views. Great preparations were made to repel the expected attack. Editors held a council of war, reporters were mustered in force, and even the newsboys were provided with defensive weapons. One of these latter, about 9 o'clock, when all were in breathless anticipation, very mischievously exploded a fire cracker in the basement. In an instant, there was a

CALLE OBISPO (OBISPO STREET).





general stampede. "Sauve qui pent!" was the word, and one of the most completely armed, a perfect walking arsenal, and who had previously boasted of his valorous intentions, got himself tightly wedged into a skylight, in a frantic effort to seek safety on the roof. Amid the universal alarm, the newsboys alone were calm and undaunted, and would doubtless have been presented with a handsome testimonial, had it not leaked out that they knew all the time that the whole affair was a practical joke.

The announcement this morning that the "Three Brothers" had successfully run the blockade, and had landed her cargo of ammunition somewhere on the coast, was received with much secret satisfaction by all the Cuban sympathizers in Havana.

Ammunition is the one weakness of the insurgents; courage, ability and men they possess in abundance, but the lack of cartridges has interfered with many of their best laid plans, and has often prevented them from availing themselves of favorable opportunities. Three or four rounds a man is nothing in an action, especially when the Spaniards are always so abundantly supplied. It is not possible, however, to imagine that anything could interfere with the prosecution of the war on Gomez's side. He seems determined this time to fight to the bitter end, and as Spanish incapacity becomes daily more apparent, the chances for final independence assume a brighter aspect. Should that cause eventually

triumph, it is devoutly to be hoped that it may triumph soon. A long war in any country is a terrible evil, but in Cuba, in the way in which it is waged, it is exceptionally disastrous.

Nearly fifty small towns have already been burned, in additions to railway stations and private houses, while the damage to the canefields, the principal source of capital, is almost incalculable. Another year of such a conflict, and there will hardly be a dwelling left standing. Nothing but waste and ruins will mark the once smiling island, and it must be long before industry and trade can revive. We have but a faint idea in Havana of the misery that exists in the interior. We can only gather a few facts, but they are still sufficient to show that in many places the people are reduced to the last extremity of destitution, and are face to face with famine. The commonest necessities of life are almost unattainable, and milk and bread have become rare luxuries. The insurgents, among all this prevailing poverty, fare indifferently, but they are more inured to hardships and capable of enduring much without a murmur. It has often been asserted that they provide no comforts for their sick and wounded. So far is this from being the case that each one of the six provinces has now got its regular hospital, where Gomez's care has established a staff of medical attendants and a strong garrison. The largest of all lies in that part of Santa Clara called the Isthmus of Zaparta. It is a

wild, swampy region, through which the natives alone can distinguish those precarious tracks, where the slightest deviation means being engulfed in the treacherous morass.

Puerto Principe has its hospital on the mountains of la Cubita, and it stands in security on the lofty summit of the Gran Piedra. In Havana, it is situated not far from Iagua, while in Santiago de Cuba and in Pinar del Rio there are asylums in the hills of Guaniganico and El Maestro. There are many smaller ones, as well, but not being so advantageously located, they are exposed to constant danger of capture, when the Spanish soldiers show little mercy to the suffering inmates.

Perhaps no figure in this unhappy war is so familiar or holds quite so bad an eminence as does Morro Castle. Not even General Weyler, with all his imperfections on his head, can rival the grim old fortress. It is the first object which meets the eye on entering the harbor of Havana, and from its commanding position on a bold bluff over the sea, it seems to dominate the city.

It was not until recently, however, that I had an opportunity of having more than an outside view of the prison. Commenced in 1589, in the reign of Philip II of evil memory, it was not finally completed until the beginning of the seventeenth century. In 1642 it was captured by an English expedition under the Duke of

Albemarle, and remained the headquarters of the British army during their occupation of Cuba. It consists of a strong outer fortification, where there are many cells devoted to those who are called "incommunicards," or doomed to solitary confinement. These are dreary rooms, with floors and ceilings of stone, bare of furniture and lighted by a single grated window. On the walls are the usual evidences of how the unhappy inmates endeavored to while away the long, melancholy hours. Scraps of poetry, interspersed with prose, all of a forlorn tendency, and generally signed with the name or initials of the captive. The passage from them into the interior leads through three iron doors, each one of which is carefully locked and barred before the succeeding one is opened.

The quadrangle inside is nearly filled by a large building, which constitutes the prison proper, and which is evidently of rather modern construction. Above it is devoted to store-rooms and the kitchen department, but underneath it is traversed from end to end by two long passages, about twenty feet in width, closed at each extremity by massive bars. These passages contain the suspects awaiting trial, and there, with nothing to protect them from the ocean breezes, which blow fiercely owing to the northern exposure, and with no beds or blankets, they remain for months and months. They are never permitted to go out, and

can only take what exercise the limited space admits of. Those who have relatives or friends may receive clothes, hammocks and even food from them; but the less fortunate are condemned to sleep upon the stones and to endure the cold and wet, which enters freely through the open grating. One of these rooms or passages was occupied by 108 prisoners and the other by 104. It must be remembered that they are all still untried; in that stage, in fact, where our law would consider them as innocent.

Here was a Spanish boy of fourteen, with an honest, kindly face, who has only been a few months in Cuba, and who, from his youth and country, can hardly be supposed to be an aggressive insurgent. Lopez Coloma is another inmate, a man who took part in the rising in Matanzas last February, but who surrendered in the following March under the amnesty proclamation of the Captain-General Calleja. For over a year Coloma has suffered for the faith which he placed in the word of a soldier and a Spanish Viceroy. In all probability he will share the fate of Jose Gomez, a history of whose sufferings and tortures his wife is said to possess recorded in his blood. Of the other prisoners I could hear of but little evidence against them; yet, be they ever so guilty, no man of ordinary feeling could witness without a pang the inhumanity to which they are subjected in Morro Castle.

INTERESTING STORY.

An interesting story of the present condition of affairs in Cuba is told by Mr. Henry Mencken, of Baltimore, who has just returned, after a two weeks' stay there.

He says the feeling among the loyal Spaniards in Havana is very bitter against the United States, and that it is dangerous for a citizen of this country to venture anywhere in Cuba outside of the cities. Mr. Mencken confined his visit to Havana and Matanzas, and was, even at those places, scoffed at and looked upon with suspicion.

A HOST OF SPIES AND SOLDIERS.

All of the country around Havana is guarded by Spanish soldiers, who will arrest anyone they take it into their heads to arrest, and if a stranger is arrested he is likely to be cast into prison and never heard of again. In the city, the streets, hotels and cafes are constantly patroled by spies, who watch foreigners—and especially Americans—keenly, hanging around in their vicinity and trying to catch fragments of their conversation.

As an American walks along the streets he can frequently hear slurring remarks made by the Spanish sympathizers. True, the American cannot always un-

RECREATION. "OLD TARS."



derstand what they say, but he can distinguish the word "Americano," uttered in a tone of supreme contempt.

The Cubans seem unanimously with the insurgents, but they have to keep under cover with their sympathies. Many of the Spaniards, too, go into the plazas and hurrah loudly for Spain, but secretly hope and feel that the insurgents will win their battle.

TALK OF WHIPPING UNCLE SAM.

Because a man is a citizen of the United States he need not count upon being exempt from insult. The Spaniards seem worked up to a reckless frenzy, and do not care what they say or do.

"Why," they remark sneeringly to Americans, "this little war will be over in a few months, and then we will go after the United States. We will go up and take Florida, which, by the way, you have never paid for, and then, after we have taken Florida, the Mexicans will walk in and take Texas and California."

The Spaniards accuse the United States of being a cowardly nation, and profess to believe that we would not fight under any circumstances.

POVERTY IN HAVANA.

Havana is in the depths of poverty. There is no business doing, and taxes have been raised enormously,

and the main supporters of the poorer families are in the field with one army or the other. It is a common thing to see women and children sleeping in the streets at night, and beggars abound on every side.

The Ingletterra Hotel, the best in the city, is doing no business at all. In time of peace every boat that arrived usually brought from fifty to a hundred persons to this hotel. On the steamer upon which I arrived there were two passengers for the hotel. Another hotel will close May 1, and many Cuban and American brokers doing business in Havana will leave the city then, declining to renew there licenses, which expire at that date.

PRISONS CROWDED.

All the prisons are now full. They are heavily guarded by Spanish soldiery, and one can hear the cries of the prisoners from the windows. It would be death for a foreigner to approach near the prisons, and dangerous for him to look up at the windows.

Whether or not they are murdering people in Morro Castle, no one knows. At any rate, the prisoners disappear. A Cuban lady of whom I heard was visiting her husband weekly, he being confined in the castle. Suddenly the authorities put her off, saying her husband could not be seen at that time. Finally, after six weeks, they told her that the best thing for her to do was to go into mourning.

That is the only clue she has ever received as to the fate of her husband. He either died naturally or was put to death.

THE SPANISH TROOPS.

There is little or no discipline among the Spanish troops. While marching, they carry their guns and walk as they please, and the officers seem never to interfere. One day while I was in Havana groups of from two to eight Spanish soldiers suddenly appeared in the streets. They seemed dazed and alarmed. We found out later that there had been a skirmish with the insurgents in the suburbs, and that these soldiers had become terrified and fled into the city for safety.

PLUCKY CAPTAIN RANDALL.

One American who stands up for his rights and those of his countrymen is Captain Randall, commander of the steamer Olivette, running between Tampa and Havana. While the Olivette was at Havana, a Cuban, who was a naturalized citizen of the United States, boarded the ship with his daughter, to sail for Tampa. He found something wrong with his tickets, and went ashore to correct the mistake. The daughter became alarmed, and appealed to a Spanish officer for protection, when the man raised his hand to strike her.

Captain Randall rushed to the girl's assistance. He seized the officer and threw him across the deck.

"Don't you dare to strike anybody on board this boat," he said to the Spaniard. "If you try any more business of this kind, you good-for-nothing fellow, I will break your neck and throw you overboard!"

Captain Randall then told the Spaniard that the United States monitor Amphitrite was at Key West, and that he would send her over and blow up Morro Castle. He told Mr. Mencken jokingly that the monitor practiced with her guns occasionally, and that every time the Spaniards at Key West heard her shoot, they "bled at the nose from fear."

BELIEVES CUBA WILL BE FREE.

That the insurgents will win Mr. Mencken has little doubt. He bases his belief upon the statements that the enthusiasm of a majority of the resident Spaniards is lukewarm; that the flower of the island is in the insurgent army; that the sympathies of the world are with the revolutionists, and that the latter are constantly receiving supplies and equipment for recruits that pour in.

CHAPTER VI.

A CORRESPONDENT'S EXPERIENCE IN CUBA.

Your correspondent came to Cubitas Mountain three weeks ago for the purpose of interviewing the President. In response to a courteous note of invitation, the President was met January 30 at a distance of nearly 100 miles from Cubitas, on his return trip from a visit to the rebel leaders in the eastern district of the island.

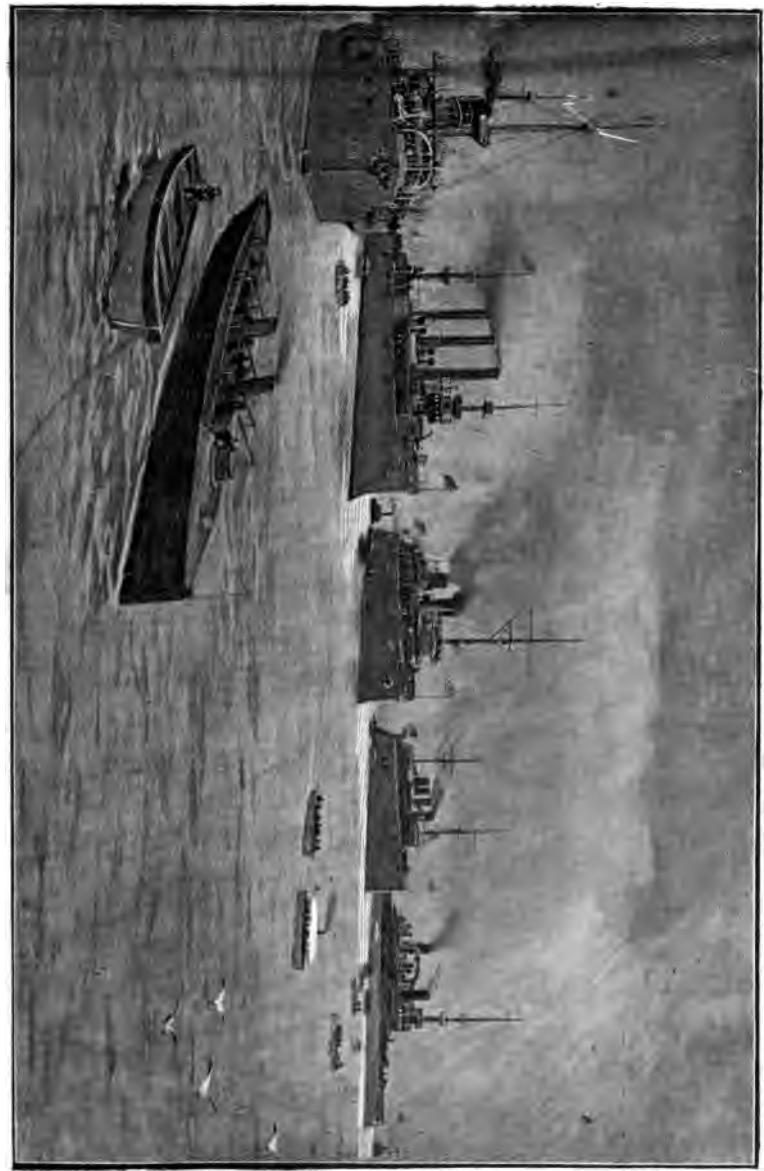
Because of the extreme care and watchfulness maintained at Cubitas, lest a Spanish spy or an assassin might gain the rocky heights, one would naturally believe that the chief executive of the republic would not dare venture abroad. Your correspondent thought so. After looking about the headquarters and its surroundings on the trip already referred to, he summoned it up in this way: It is certain that the officers of the rebel government are all right and safe from the hands of the Spaniards while they cling to their mountain capital; but, supposing they should become weary of their elevated position and move away, what then? Why, the Spanish troops would simply swoop down upon them, gobble up the government, and store it away in the

great Moro at Havana. Later on the entire batch of officials, were they fortunate enough to escape capital punishment for being traitors to the Crown of Castile, would find lodgment for indefinite periods in the place for such people provided at Ceuta, Africa.

These were the impressions that were carried away from Cubitas. Who could think otherwise? At Puerto Principe, only twenty-five miles away, was a large Spanish garrison. Soldiers were everywhere; at the hotels, around the railroad stations, on the trains between the provincial capital and its northern port, Nuevitas, and even aboard the steamers between the latter place and Havana. So far as the observer was concerned, Spanish rule was dominant everywhere except over an area of 8000 acres at the top of Cubitas Mountain.

But let another journey be made. The Cuban President himself gives directions. The note which he sends by special messenger to Havana reads:

"I have an important document for you. Meet me at the headquarters any time after February 4. You will be compelled to exercise great caution at Nuevitas, since the account of your late trip has been published. Should you not be averse to a long saddle ride, I would suggest that you take the steamer to Puerto Padre, beyond Nuevitas, and from that point meet our party at Las Tunas, just across the border, in the Province of



2d Class Battleship "Texas," Protected Cruiser "Minneapolis," 1st Class Battleship "Massachusetts," Armored Cruiser "Brooklyn," Protected Cruiser "Columbia," At HAMPTON Roads.—Drawn by Carlton T. Chapman.

Santiago de Cuba (I should say State of Oriente, but do not wish to confuse you).

"The person who presents this note to you will direct you to our party at whatever place it may be; but if you respond without delay, you will be enabled to join us at the place already mentioned."

A SAFE PLACE TO LAND.

Puerto Padre was a safe place to land. It is quite different from Nuevitas in many respects. In the first place, it is a small, sleepy village, at which steamers stop only semi-occasionally. Then they do not remain long, in spite of the anti-hurrying traditions of the port. There is no Spanish garrison there. If there was, the imbibing of the never-ruffled ozone would render them useless.

The people of the place seem to care little about the revolution. They get the news, to be sure, but it comes overland, is a month old and fearfully distorted. But for all that, Puerto Padre is a good place to land. Nobody knows anything about your business, and nobody cares. On certain occasions this is a very agreeable condition.

The main road from Puerto Padre to the interior runs almost due south, through a country agreeably hilly, and cut up into cattle ranches of various sizes. They were cattle ranches not long ago, but in recent

days all manner and description of livestock upon them "went to the rebellion." As a consequence, the hills are covered with tall grass, the majority of the houses are deserted, and only a few people are encountered upon the road.

It was easy to trace the marches of the insurgent cavalry by the strips of barbed-wire fences that were cut at intervals. The rebels had evidently never taken the roads during their marches, and in this they gave a most commendable exhibition of good sense. The roads were very muddy on this occasion, although the rain that fell the previous night was not copious. One would almost faint to think of what they might be after the famous rainy season of Cuba had set in.

"Could Spanish artillery be hauled over this road?" the guide was asked.

"No," replied the fellow, "nor Cuban artillery, either."

When about thirty miles from Puerto Padre, the Las Canas ranch was reached. Here the country was quite rough, and back to the left several high mountains, chief among them Maniabon, reached toward the deep, blue sky.

Though Cuban horses are, as a rule, very hardy little animals, the guide thought a change would be well enough. The proprietors of the Las Canas rancho were agreeable to this, very frankly remarking that their lot of horses was not the best in the world, as the

insurgents had come on some six weeks before and appropriated their stock, leaving in its stead fifteen or twenty steeds with whom long marches had counted severely. The ranchmen were Cubans, and said they were ashamed to be at home when they should be in the field fighting. Still, as one of them remarked, they had "contributed" all their horses and most of their cattle to the cause, and the government (as they designated the rebels) should be satisfied.

From Las Canas the route was across several ranches to the road leading in the direction of Colmenas, and thence to Tunas. Reaching the road, little hamlets were found at short intervals. Women and children greeted the travelers, and now and then the guide asked questions about men he knew. Most of them, according to the information elicited, were with Gomez or Maceo in the west, or accompanying President Cisneros.

They told that they were in want of nothing for their families, as the "prefecto" supplied them with clothing and other necessities. Here was the first evidence to your correspondent of the existence of that all-around official of the revolutionary government called the "prefecto," but during the remainder of the trip he was found everywhere.

He is the representative of the civil branch of the government, and is withal a very important personage, if a measure of his duties is taken into consideration.

At Colmenas the guide led the way to the prefecto's house. He was not at home, but would be back in an hour or so. There was nothing to do but to wait, for to pass his house without showing your Cuban passport and receiving instructions would be considered in the light of a very unfriendly act toward the government. The use of the latter term, indicating the republic, was surprisingly common. But as one proceeded further there was no cause for wonderment, for evidences of other than the Cuban authority were lacking.

BEARERS OF DISPATCHES.

When the prefecto returned, there were four horsemen with him. He called them a "commission," and said they were bearing dispatches to points along the coast from Nuevitas to Puerto Padre, and even as far east as Gibra. The "commission" also brought the information that a column of Spanish infantry, 700 strong, was marching in the direction of Colmenas from Las Tunas, and they advised that the direct road be not taken. The President's party could be encountered at Jobabo, they said, for he had already left Las Tunas, leaving about the same time the Spanish column did.

"How is this?" the prefecto was asked. "You do not appear to be much excited over the fact that 600 or

700 Spanish soldiers are marching in this direction. Are you not an official of the revolutionary government?"

"Yes," he replied; "I am the prefecto of this district; but we no longer fear the Spanish troops. You see, the garrison that has been at Las Tunas was not large, and it did not meddle in our affairs. We have a prefecto at that place, too, and he is virtually mayor. You see, this country all through here is Cuban, and although there are three or four Spanish garrisons, they do no fighting, and interfere with us in no way."

"There are enough insurgent soldiers here to win from the Spaniards, but if we whipped them, a still larger force might be sent, and we, in turn, get the worst of it for the time being. But they have no civil officers in all this section, and the only recognized authorities in all such matters are the prefectos."

"Even though this is a Catholic country, we perform marriages, and only a few days ago I made a couple of young people happy who came from the Nuevo Leon Ranch. If there are any disputes in the district, the prefecto settles them. He is a combination of justice of the peace, mayor and general overseer of the people of his district."

Then the good-natured and willing-to-talk official detailed his other duties—how he was expected to provide food for the families of rebel soldiers who were away fighting; how he must see all those who refused

to contribute, and report them to the higher officers of the government.

"But we have very little trouble in this line," he went on, "for the people are heart and soul in the movement, and are all working together. The tax is light, and as there are no officials to be paid, the government is an easy one to support."

Leaving the prefecto and Colmenas behind, a path crossing the plains and hills was followed. The little hamlets of Vega, Potosi and Loma Alta were passed. At each, sub-prefectos were seen and talked with. They seemed to be legally conscious of the importance of their office, and regarded the republican government as the only one in their section. To hear them talk, one would think the struggle now going on in Havana and Pinar del Rio was simply to decide who was uppermost in those provinces. The question had been settled so far as the central and eastern portions of the island were concerned. It certainly looked that way.

A short distance beyond Loma Alta, the guide pointed to a high hill, and explained that there two rivers had their sources. They were the Jobabo and the Salado, the former flowing south and the latter north, and both forming the natural border between the provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Puerto Principe.

CROSSING A RAGING STREAM.

Shortly afterward the Jobabo river came into view.

TACON THEATRE AND INGLATERRA HOTEL.



It was not wide, but rushed madly along, and when the guide proposed that it be crossed, there was a demur. Further down, though, he said it was much wider and just as rapid, and it must be crossed anyway, unless a circuit was made to the north a distance of five miles or thereabout. So there was nothing to do but make the attempt, the guide leading. Your correspondent had the better horse, but his forte was not crossing swift streams, and it appeared for a few moments that several miles further down would be reached without making much effort on land. But the nervy little animal evidently possessed the spirit of the revolution, and was not to be downed. He scrambled and pawed the stony bottom, once or twice fell, but eventually reached the opposite bank, pulling a thoroughly drenched and not overcomposed scribe with him.

At a little place called Romero, the prefecto supplied a dinner (the evening meal in Cuba is called dinner), and extended an invitation to remain through the night at his house. He said the President's party, which, as was here learned, consisted of 400 men, all mounted, had dined at Jobabo, and was to spend the night at Guanaro, still three leagues distant. He proposed that an early start be made on the following morning, and Mr. Cisneros be found before he left Guanaro. This plan was agreed to, and the weary travelers, who had come a distance of about sixty miles, shared with the kind-hearted prefecto the comforts of his humble home.

It was a nice ride in the cool morning to Guanaro. The sun was just arising over the peaks of the Sierra Maestra, in the far east. Around and about the country presented a cheerful appearance. There was no indication of war—nothing but peace and happiness.

The little village strewn along the mountain-side was awake early, for in it the President of the republic had spent the night. It was a feast day for Guanaro.

There were no soldiers on duty anywhere. The horses of the cavalry were grazing in the yards of the villagers and in the open fields across the stream. Many of the cavalrymen were still sleeping in their hammocks or on the ground. Others were chatting with girls of the village, who were glad to have the soldiers come and would soon be sorry because of their leaving.

President Cisneros spent the night in the house of the local prefecto. His staff and those other officers of the rebel government who were with him had been the guests of the little village hotel.

Going to the hotel, Colonel Mario G. Menocal presented himself and extended the courtesies of President Cisneros, whose private secretary he is, in addition to being Vice-Secretary of War. He imparted the information that his chief had worked far into the night before, despite the protests of his friends, and the fact that forty-two miles had been covered by the party that day.

THE PRESIDENT'S INSPECTION TOUR.

"We want to reach the vicinity of Puerto Principe tonight," he said, "and that means a ride of about thirty-five miles. Then we will have only thirty miles to cover on the following day, bringing us to headquarters. I shall be very well pleased to get back to Cubitas again, as this has been a most tiresome trip for us all, and especially for the President. I do not quite understand how he is able to endure such fatigue, but he does not seem to mind it as much as we younger men do."

It is a relief to hear such English spoken in the interior of Cuba as Colonel Menocal speaks. He is a thoroughly educated young man, a graduate of Cornell, and full of life, ambition and patriotism. His connection with the Nicaragua Canal enterprise made his name well known throughout the United States.

"This has been a sort of inspection tour," said Colonel Menocal. "There was the appointment of about thirty prefectos to be made, and there were a number of others who had not sent in reports for two months. President Cisneros desired to make personal investigation, and so two weeks ago we left Cubitas. Since that time we have been over in the extreme eastern end of the republic, made an inspection of the forces in the Sierra Maestra mountains, looked over the stores, farms and prison there, and on the way back made ap-

pointments of prefectos and sub-prefectos in a score of districts."

Colonel Menocal was reminded that he used the term "republic," referring to the island.

"Why, isn't it a republic?" he asked. "We have our established and permanent seat of government, have over 350 prefectos in the island, and govern with civil laws at least two-thirds of the total area. Of course, I understand that Spain still controls the seaboard, and holds the cities, but her navy is her only salvation. There are hundreds of miles in the interior of Cuba that Spanish soldiers have never trod, and, for that matter, never shall.

CUBA A REPUBLIC ALREADY.

"If we could not justly lay claim to having a republic here established, how is it that our President, with an escort of only 400 men, can be away from Cubitas for a fortnight, traverse a distance of 300 miles by the main highway of the island, and never a shot be fired by friend or foe? How is it that we have civil officers all the way from Puerto Principe to the very shadow of the castle at Santiago de Cuba?

"And, again, how is it that in the Sierra Maestra mountains we have working upon the farms of the republic over 700 Spanish soldiers, who were made prisoners of war, and who, not caring to return to their ranks, are protected by General Jose Maceo and his

men? This latter feature may be news to the American people, but the Spanish government knows it full well, and has made attempts to recapture its men, although at the same time it has denied such a state of affairs."

The sound of a bugle coming from up the road told Colonel Menocal and the other officers at the hotel, among them Dr. Orles, chief of the insurgent hospital corps, that the hour for taking up the march had arrived.

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT.

Getting into the saddles and galloping up the road, President Cisneros was found standing at the door of the prefecto's house, bidding good-bye to that important official and the family and friends who had gathered about. There was a general handshaking, while men, women and children were hurrying from other sections of the little hamlet to say "Adios!" to the untiring little man whom they know as their chief magistrate.

It was all very simple, and because of its simplicity very pretty, not to say affecting.

The President's eye caught the newspaper correspondent. He left the group and came out with extended hand.

"Ah! you were late, were you not?" he asked. "You should have been at Las Tunas and witnessed the

march of our little band through the town, unmolested by the Spanish garrison. Yes, it was very significant."

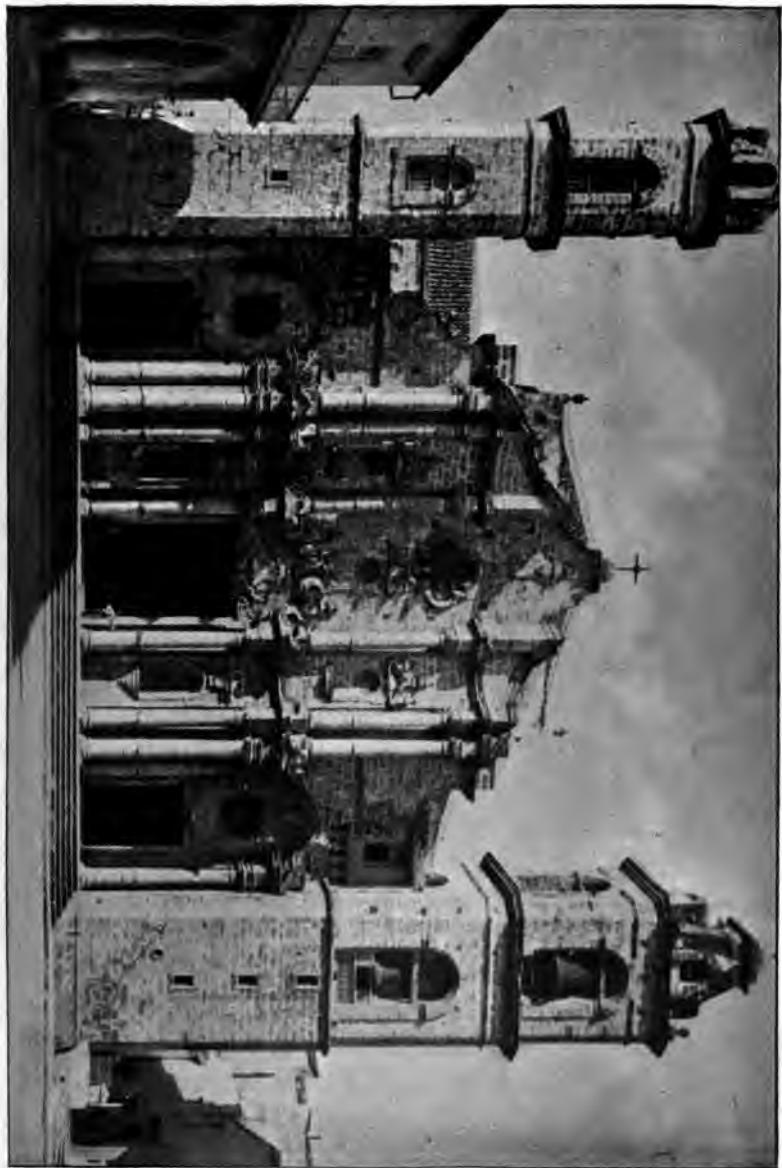
The column was already away up the road, followed by a large crowd of villagers, who were shouting themselves hoarse with cries of "Cuba Libre!" "Vive Cuba!" and "Vive Presidente Cisneros!"

Your correspondent rode alongside of Mr. Cisneros, who sat jauntily in the saddle and appeared happy as he conversed on commonplace topics, intermingled with matters of greater import. Colonel Menocal, who rode ahead with Dr. Orles, occasionally addressed remarks to the President or his companion. Behind rode six or eight horsemen.

"President Cisneros, are you not exposing yourself and the government by making such a journey as this?" was the correspondent's first question.

"Oh, no," he replied, spiritedly; "this is our section of the country, you know," and he emphasized the "our" as though there was no doubt about it.

Indeed, it appeared so. From the little village of Guanaro, along the main highway until the vicinity of Puerto Principe was reached, there was nothing to indicate the existence of Spanish rule in Cuba. On the contrary, there was every evidence not alone of sympathy with the Cuban government, but of its actual application in a civil as well as military sense. People gathered at the small settlements and crossroad corners to greet the little army of well-mounted, well-





armed and intelligent men who had accompanied President Cisneros on his march, certainly to him a triumphal one, from central Cuba almost to the extreme eastern end of the island and return.

THE REBELS' OWN COUNTRY.

"No, we have no reason to fear an attack here," continued Mr. Cisneros, in answer to a question as the lights of Puerto Principe shone six or seven miles away, "for the force in the city has been reduced almost to nothing during the last two weeks, the Spanish government evidently deciding that the 6000 soldiers could be used to better advantage around Havana. Some weeks ago they were afraid Puerto Principe would be captured. Then their fears rested on Matanzas. Now they are massing thousands of troops before Havana and fortifying the city with heavy Krupp guns. The Spaniards act as though they thought we wanted Havana, when, as a matter of fact, we are satisfied with our little mountain capital for the time being."

Last night was passed at Tres Caminos, eighteen miles from headquarters. An early morning start was made, and long before noon the President of the Cuban Republic was resting in his picturesque little cottage, but a short distance from the clouds.

When Mr. Cisneros reached the summit, he found the home garrison drawn up to receive him. A volley

from the rifles told those back at headquarters that he had arrived, and the little cannon that three weeks ago boomed welcome to an American correspondent, now boomed again and again, like renewed peals of joy at the return of the man upon whom, with Gomez and Maceo, the hopes of the republic rest.

Once again in the little cottage, which we must call the "Executive Villa," President Cisneros said:

"Here is the document I promised you. Give it to the people of the United States, and ask them, in the name of liberty and of Cuba, to help us."

Before your correspondent left Cubitas, news of victories in Havana province arrived, and there was general rejoicing at the cloudland capital of the republic.

CHAPTER VII.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL WEYLER.

Miss Kate Masterson was sent by the *Journal*, New York, to Havana, and obtained a most interesting interview from General Weyler, which is given below:

Havana, March 13.

I stood in the beautiful garden of the palace, with the statue of Columbus looking down upon me. I had come to pay a morning call upon the Captain-General, Valeriano Weyler y Nicolán, Marquis de Tenerife.

I confess I felt rather frightened. I had read biographical sketches of the General in some of the New York papers, and I had taken a large accident insurance upon my life before leaving the hotel.

I climbed the marble stairway and was in the ante-room of the palace.

Spanish soldiers, in jaunty blue linen uniforms, stood about smoking brown cigarettes. They looked at me curiously.

“*La Americana!*” I heard them say, as I seated myself.

The room was filled with Cuban women, all waiting to see General Weyler. Some of them had come to

petition him for their male relatives in Morro Castle or for their sick sons and husbands in the hospital. They wore the black lace scarf of the country over their heads, and their faces were lined with the premature age which withers the beauty of the Cuban women before it has reached its prime.

One after the other, they passed in through the swinging doors. Almost immediately they returned, some of them looking happier, but others still hopeless and still weeping.

The hearts of all these brave, tender women are being torn with suffering during this cruel war, and their big eyes are drenched with tears.

HOW WEYLER LOOKS.

My card was finally handed in, and at once I was ushered into the presence of the Captain-General.

A man of middle height advanced to meet me with outstretched hands. The great strength of his face and the massive build of his shoulders were what first impressed themselves upon me. His eyes are bright, and are the color of sherry with ice in it. Otherwise they have a naughty little twinkle.

The hand which clasped mine was finely shaped, cold and firm. The voice in which he greeted me was quick and magnetic. He ushered me to a chair, and then sat near me.

He wore a black alpaca office coat, which hung loosely on his big shoulders. His linen was spotless. About his waist, over his vest, he wore a sash of red silk, the only mark of his military rank.

"I WAS MUCH AFRAID OF YOU."

"Your Excellency," I said, through my interpreter, "the American women have a very bad opinion of you. I am very much afraid of you myself, but I have come to ask the honor of an interview with you, in order that I may write something which will reassure the women of America that you are not treating women and children unmercifully."

The General smiled.

"I do not give interviews," he said. "I am willing, however, to answer any question you wish to ask."

So it was with this understanding that we conversed. The General has allowed me to have the conversation published.

"In the United States," I said, "an impression prevails that your edict shutting out newspaper correspondents from the field is only to conceal cruelties perpetrated upon the insurgent prisoners. Will Your Excellency tell me the real cause?"

"I have," replied the General, "shut out the Spanish and Cuban papers from the field, as well as the Americans. In the last war the correspondents created much

jealousy by what they wrote. They praised one and rebuked the other. They wrote what their passions dictated, instead of facts. They even created ill-feeling between the Spanish officers. They are a nuisance."

"Then I can deny the stories that have been published as to your being cruel?"

WAR IS WAR.

The General shrugged his heavy shoulders, as he said carelessly:

"I have no time to pay attention to stories. Some of them are true and some are not. If you will particularize I will give direct answers, but these things are not important."

"Does not Your Excellency think that prisoners of war should be treated with consideration and mercy?"

The General's eyes glinted dangerously.

"The Spanish columns attend to their prisoners just as well as any other country in times of war," he replied. "War is war. You cannot make it otherwise, try as you will."

"Will not Your Excellency allow me to go to the scene of battle under an escort of soldiers, if necessary, that I may write of the fighting as it really is, and correct the impression that prevails in America that inhuman treatment is being accorded the insurgent prisoners?"



A
VOT A NOTA



"Impossible," answered the General, "it would not be safe."

"I am willing to take all the danger, if Your Excellency will allow me to go," I exclaimed.

SPANISH SOLDIERS TOO AFFECTIONATE.

General Weyler laughed. "There would be no danger from the rebels," he said, "but from the Spanish soldiers. They are of a very affectionate disposition, and would all fall in love with you."

"I will keep a great distance from the fighting if you will allow me to go."

The General's lips closed tightly, and he said:

"Impossible! Impossible!"

"What would happen," I asked, "if I should be discovered crossing the lines without permission?"

"You would be treated just the same as a man."

"Would I be sent to Castle Morro?"

"Yes." He nodded his head vigorously.

That settled it. I decided not to go.

"Why," I then asked, "is the rule 'incommunicado' placed upon prisoners? Is it not cruel to prevent a man from seeing his wife and children?"

"The rule 'incommunicado,' said the General, "is a military law. Prisoners are allowed to see their relatives as a favor, but we exercise discretion in these cases."

"IT IS FALSE!" HE SAID.

"There are stories that prisoners are shot in Morro Castle at daybreak each morning, and that the shots can be plainly heard across the bay. Is this true?"

The General's eyes looked unpleasant again.

"It is false!" he said, shortly. "The prisoners go through a regular court-martial, and no one could be shot at Morro without my orders; and I have not given orders to shoot anyone since I have been here."

"Do you not think it very cruel that innocent women and children should be made to suffer in time of war?"

"No innocent women and children do suffer. It is only those who leave their homes and take part in battles who are injured. It is only the rebels who destroy peaceful homes."

AMAZONS IN MORRO.

"It is reported," I said, "that thirty women are fighting under General Maceo. Is this true?"

"Yes," replied the General. "We took one woman yesterday. She was dressed in man's clothes, and was wielding a machete. She is now in Morro Castle. These women are fiercer than the men. Many of them are mulattos. This particular woman was white."

"What will be her fate?"

"She will go through the regular form of trial."

"Will no mercy be shown her?" I asked.

"Mercy is always shown to a woman. While the

law is the same for both sexes, there is a clause which admits of mercy to a woman."

"There are several Cuban women insurgents in Morro and the Cabanas. Would Your Excellency," I asked, "allow me to visit and converse with them?"

"No," he said. "There is a law that no foreigner shall enter our fortresses. It is a military law. We can make no exceptions. You understand that I do not wish to be discourteous, Señorita."

"Some of these women," I continued, "are said to be imprisoned for merely having Cuban flags in their homes. Is this possible?"

"Treason," explained the General, "is always a crime, punishable by imprisonment."

"There is a newspaper correspondent at present in Morro. What was his crime?"

The General shrugged his shoulders again. "I know nothing about him," he said. "I think he has been freed."

"Do you not think that the life of a newspaper correspondent in Havana is at present a most unhappy one?"

"I think it must be; for they make me unhappy. If they were all like you it would be a pleasure."

WEYLER ON THE MACHETE.

"Do you not think the machete a most dangerous implement of war?"

"No. It is simply something to fight with. A man fights with a stick, a gun or a sword. It is not so cruel as a sword."

"Is it true that thumb-screws are used to extort confessions from prisoners?"

"Not by the Spaniards. Rebels use all these things, similar to those that were used in the Inquisition tortures."

"Don't you think the soldiers fear the yellow fever?"

"No. Young people fear nothing. There has been only one case of fever so far."

"Does not Your Excellency fear it?"

He shrugged his shoulders and smiled at me in an amused way. It gave me the impression that the General did not fear much of anything.

"What does your excellency think of the Cubans as a race? Do you not think them progressive and brave?"

"With the progress of all nations the Cubans have progressed," he replied. "There are many Cubans in sympathy with Spain, but this insurrection is a blot upon the Cuban race, which nothing can ever erase. It is a stain made with the blood of the slain and the tears of the women. It injures the Cubans themselves more than any other."

CRITICIZES GOMEZ.

"Do you not think that Maceo and Gomez have shown good generalship?"

"No. Maceo is a mulatto. He has has no military instruction. Gomez fought under me at Santo Domingo. He was a captain and I was a colonel."

"Was he not a brave soldier?"

"No; he never distinguished himself in any way."

"Does not Your Excellency think the Cuban women very pretty?" and the General smiled approvingly yes.

"Yes, beautiful," he said.

"And the American women—what do you think of them?" he was asked.

"If you, señorita, are a fair sample, then I think them adorable," and the General bowed with his hand upon his heart.

"General, I wish to cable this story to the Journal," I said. "If I give you my word as an American woman that there will be nothing against the government in it, will you allow it to go over the wire without censorship? I understand that the censor edits with a machete."

"I do not wish you to think that I could doubt your word," he replied, "but this is a rule to which we can make no exception. You can be sure that your article will not be injured."

NO WOMEN ARE HARMED.

"Your Excellency, the hearts of American women are suffering in the thought that their Cuban friends

are suffering. Will you not graciously indite a letter to the Journal which will reassure them on this important matter?"

"I tell you, and is not that enough? No women are harmed. The Spaniards are kinder to Cuban women than the Cubans themselves. There are many Cuban women married to Spanish men, and they make them good and devoted husbands. I see many Cuban women, who come here each day with petitions, as you have seen them today. I rarely send one away without granting what she asks."

"Your Excellency, how can I believe you, much as I would like to? I do not wish you to think for a moment that I doubt your word, but you have refused two of my requests. If you will allow 'La Porbre Americano' to go through the lines and to visit Morro, I shall believe you."

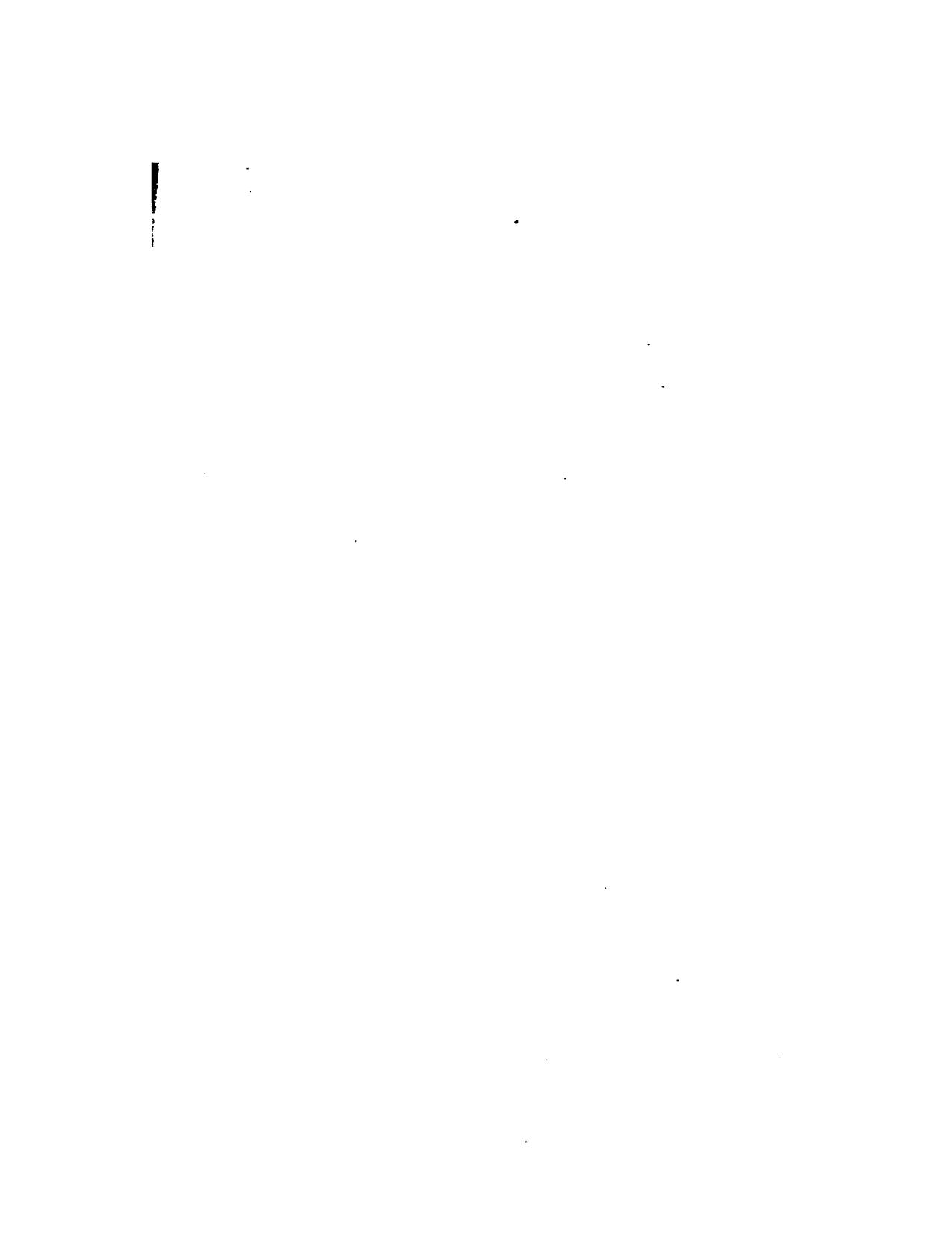
The General laughed heartily at this.

"No; it is the law," he said. "If there is anything I can do for you I shall be extremely happy to do it; but I cannot transgress the law. Would you not like to see the palace?"

Then General Weyler led the way into the throne-room, which was just off the audience chamber. It is a long, stately, high-ceilinged apartment, curtained in brilliant red velvet. The floors are of white-tiled marble, and the walls of red brocade, outlined with gold.

SERVING MILK





The throne itself is on a raised dais at the end of the room, right under a portrait of King Alfonso.

SECRET DOOR TO HIS BEDROOM.

There seemed to be no outlet to this apartment, but the General placed his hand upon the wall, near the throne, and almost like magic a panel door opened, which the General held until I had passed through.

"This is my bedroom," he said. It was a beautiful room. The big brass bed was canopied in fine lace and soft, white monogrammed linen showing through. The chairs were of cane, and a couch was drawn near the window, where flowers were blooming. A cut-glass liquor set was on a small table, and books were upon a shelf near the bed.

"Step in here," said the General, and he opened another of those secret doors in the wall, and we were in the enclosed balcony. The General pushed open one of the blinds, and the palace garden was before us, a delightful breeze coming through the wavy palm trees that lined the walk.

The sitting-room opens off the bedroom. It is daintily furnished. A dressing-table, draped with lace, bears silver toilet implements and many photographs. A broad table near the window is furnished with writing materials of silver.

General Weyler drew aside the lace that hung before the window and pointed to the sea.

WEYLER'S DEAD DAUGHTER.

"Is it not beautiful?" he said.

"This room is like a lady's boudoir," I exclaimed.
"Has not Your Excellency a wife and daughters who might enjoy all this with you?"

He went to the dressing-case and picked up a large photograph of a beautiful young girl, with black hair and large, serious eyes. Across the corner was written in Spanish, "To my father," with an affectionate sentiment inscribed beneath.

"She died five months ago," he said. Then he handed me another picture, that of a bright, sweet-faced girl. "She speaks English," he said.

Then came the picture of a boy, resembling the General across the forehead and eyes. "Has he not a good German face?" he asked proudly. After this he handed me a card upon which the faces of his smaller children were pictured, the heads close together. "These are my babies," said the General.

THE GENERAL'S BATHROOM.

"Now I must show you my bathroom," he continued, and with pardonable pride he ushered me into a large

room, the floor and walls of which were of pale blue marble. There were Turkish towels everywhere in a beautiful profusion, which I had not before observed in Havana, and a cane couch had pillows, also covered with toweling. A velvet screen shut off the marble bath, but the General led me back of this so that he might show me the shower bath. The floor was indented beneath the shower, and the General stood at a safe distance and pulled the brass chain to show me how it worked. It was wonderful.

"There is not such a beautiful bathroom in Havana," he exclaimed, enthusiastically.

Out of this room we walked into a spacious billiard-room, the long windows filled with flowers. There was a fine table and a set of cues in a case upon the wall.

"Do you play, General?" I asked.

"Yes, but I have no time now," he answered. He ushered me into a stately dining-room, white and cool and finely furnished.

A long table was spread in the centre of the room, and there were hundreds of roses upon it. They were in tall vases and in circles upon the white cloth. They filled the air with their fragrance.

"Will you not accept these?" said the General, selecting some particularly fine ones from the largest cluster.

"What color do you prefer?" said he. Then he handed them to me with a bow, as I thanked him.

"I shall be most happy if you will join me at dinner

this evening," said he, "or if not convenient, any other evening; or to breakfast, if you prefer. Breakfast is at 12 each day, and dinner at 8."

I thanked the General for his courtesy, and he continued: "You must not think it odd that I should invite you. I know that American ladies can dine or breakfast with a gentleman without remark."

I assured the General that I should be very much honored to accept his kind hospitality, and we passed into a long room, half balcony and half windows. Upon the walls were wooden shields, with various kinds of sabres fastened to them, the blades beaming in the sunlight. Upon one of them hung a wreath of laurels, tied with ribbons of red and yellow. Upon the ribbons was written in letters of gold:

"To the brave and illustrious Don Valeriano Weyler, Cobernador-General de la Isla de Cuba."

Back again to the audience chamber we went, and General Weyler pointed out the portraits of the various generals who had preceded him.

"Where is Your Excellency's portrait?" I asked.

"They do not put them here until we leave," he said, as though with a great appreciation of the humor of this arrangement. Then with many assurances of his consideration, and with a kindly-urged invitation that I might come again to partake of his hospitality, General Weyler shook hands with me in a most friendly fashion, and we said "adios!"

CHAPTER VIII.

HOW WOMEN FIGHT IN CUBA.

An organization composed of women is fighting for Cuban independence with General Maceo. A correspondent watching operations in the west sends an interesting letter, in which he says:

They are the most courageous body of soldiers I ever saw. I have seen them in two skirmishes and one battle, that of Pinar del Rio, and not one of them has flinched, even when men were falling dead and wounded all around them. While the fighting lasts they show no emotion, but when the last shot is fired, I have seen women throw themselves on the ground and give way to a delirium of grief.

At the skirmish at La Palma I saw Henrietta, Isabella and Mercedes Verona, sisters, members of one of the proudest families of the eastern part of the island, fighting side by side. They seemed to keep near each other. Isabella, the youngest, was a frail little girl, not more than seventeen years old. During a rush of soldiers the sisters were separated. I saw a man throw himself on Isabella, and about to cut her down with a machete, when the sisters fought their way to

her side and cast themselves at the soldier with indescribable ferocity. He was a strong man, and could easily have fought the women away. Suddenly the man jumped backward, and, turning, found Isabella alone facing him. He seemed to admire the bravery of the girls, and in a spirit of gallantry tried to escape without hurting her. But Isabella did not want him to get away alive, so she aimed a blow at him with her machete. The flat side fell upon his head, and he fell. While prostrate, the Spaniard struck upward, and his weapon split open the head of the girl. She never knew what hurt her.

FOUGHT LIKE TIGRESSES.

Mercedes and Henrietta went at the man like tigresses. Before he could regain his feet, they had literally cut him to pieces. The body of the Spanish soldier bore forty-eight cuts. The living sisters took one look at Isabella to see that she was not merely wounded, and, satisfying themselves that she was beyond aid, they rushed into the fight again. When the battle was over, and the Spanish were flying in every direction, then the womanhood of the girls appeared. They sought the dead body of their sister, threw themselves upon it, and gave way to their grief. Other women approached and tried, with feminine tact, to console the bereaved ones. Mercedes, the oldest sis-

SEWING HAMMOCKS.





ter, spat and stamped on the body of the man who killed Isabella. This act was witnessed by Lieutenant Casa, of Maceo's staff, who sternly rebuked Mercedes, reminding her of the punishment provided by the general for those who profaned dead enemies. The voice of authority restrained the girls and reminded them that they had laid aside womanhood when they became soldiers; so they dried their eyes and set about burying the sister. She was laid away in a separate grave, and the sisters left the spot with their comrades.

The idol of Maceo's command is Senora Florencia Palmas, who distinguished herself in the hot engagement two weeks ago near Havana city by standing on a rise of ground while the battle was raging below her, and coolly discharging shot after shot at the enemy. The woman is a splendid shot, as was proven by the fact that at the close of the fight a captain, a lieutenant and three soldiers lay dead from her bullets. Her position on the hill made her a good mark for Spanish bullets, but, although fired at a number of times, she came out of the fight sound as a dollar. Senora Palmas's comrades cheered her as she blazed away, and her example caused the men to fight like demons. At the close of the battle, Maceo had Senora Palmas escorted before him, and publicly thanked her for the example she had shown his men. The senora follows her husband, who is a rebel leader. She is of English stock, but was born in Cuba and educated in the United

States. Her husband is American born, but grew up on the island, and owns a large plantation in Matanzas province.

The women have been commissioned as a cavalry detachment. They ride astride their horses, and rush like furies into battle when bugle sounds charge. They took pride in competing with the men for the most dangerous positions at the fall of Pinar del Rio. Their ranks would undoubtedly be much thinner now, were it not for the chivalry of Spanish soldiers, who never seek to hurt them unless necessity causes self-preservation. Captain-General Weyler has given orders that women warriors should not be killed in battle, unless necessary to preserve the lives of Spanish soldiers. His commands are that they shall be captured alive and treated with all the courtesies due their sex.

ORGANIZED BY A WOMAN.

The troops of Amazons was organized by Senora P. Hernandez. Her husband was killed in one of the first engagements of the war. He owned a large sugar plantation and was accounted quite wealthy. The couple had no children. When told of her husband's death, Senora Hernandez said she had lost all she cared for, and would join the rebel ranks. General Maceo did not like the idea of women soldiers, but here in Cuba women mold men as they please, and

the leader finally acceded to her wishes. The senora enlisted two women from near her own home, and gathered others as they marched into other localities. She took part in burning her own plantation, which was ordered done, because, if not done, it would give color to the charge of favoritism.

Most women in the army are from the east, and marched across the island with Maceo, but a few are from the west. They now number twenty, three having been killed. Four of them are negresses. The uniform consists of a red jacket, blue collar and cuffs, buff-colored trousers made after the fashion of those worn by American bloomer girls, leather leggings running to the knees, a wide belt to carry a revolver and machete, a leather strap fastened around the body across the shoulders where the rifle is slung. The women cut their hair close, man fashion. Their head-gear consists of a wide straw hat, with the brim turned up in front, making a flat surface, which holds the five-pointed emblem of Cuban liberty.

CHAPTER IX.

SENATOR SHERMAN ON CUBA.*

I know that the people of Spain are a sensitive, a proud, a gallant people, and will not submit to what they consider to be an injustice without resentment and resistance. At the same time, my convictions are strong, made stronger every day, that the condition of affairs in Cuba is such that the intervention of the United States must sooner or later be given to put an end to crimes that are almost beyond description.

After the elaborate statements made by my honorable friend the Senator from Alabama, Mr. Morgan, in which he has exhausted all the history of the question, I do not think it is necessary for me to go into many details. Nearly all the arguments and the facts upon which I base my opinion I draw from two documents. One is written by an American, who does not give his name, but he is evidently interested in commercial matters in Cuba, and I judge from the tone of the paper that he is also interested in commercial matters in this country. But as he does not give his name, I do not know to whom to ascribe it. It is a

*From the speech of Senator Sherman in the United States Senate, which he sent for this book, with some changes.

very ably-written article upon the side of Spain, and very strongly against the people of Cuba who are now engaged in war.

The other document to which I refer is one which I believe has not been generally read by members of the Senate. It is a document that was printed by order of the Committee on Foreign Relations, signed by T. Estrada Palma, who represents the belligerent Cubans and is the agent, so far as they can appoint an agent, for the revolutionary government of Cuba. This document, addressed to Mr. Olney, the Secretary of State, and furnished by him to the committee, gives nearly all that is necessary to know about the growth of the revolution in Cuba, the organization of the civil government there, the formation of armies, and all the principal incidents of the combat that is now waging. In all its parts it seems to be fairly and frankly written without exaggeration, and perhaps I may read two or three paragraphs from the beginning of it to show the tone of this communication.

In speaking of the causes of the revolution, he says:

"These causes are substantially the same as those of the former revolution, lasting from 1868 to 1878 and terminating only on the representation of the Spanish government that Cuba would be granted such reforms as would remove the grounds of complaint on the part of the Cuban people. Unfortunately, the hopes thus held out have never been realized. The repre-

sentation which was to be given the Cubans has proved to be absolutely without character; taxes have been levied anew on everything conceivable; the ~~ones~~ in the island have increased, but the officers are all Spaniards; the native Cubans have been left with no public duties whatsoever to perform, except the payment of taxes to the government and blackmail to the officials, without privilege even to move from place to place in the island except on the permission of governmental authority.

"Spain has framed laws so that the natives have substantially been deprived of the right of suffrage. The taxes levied have been almost entirely devoted to support the army and navy in Cuba, to pay interest on the debt that Spain has saddled on the island, and to pay the salaries of the vast number of Spanish office-holders, devoting only \$746,000 for internal improvements out of the \$26,000,000 collected by tax."

In another part of this document, it is shown that no schools are organized there, and practically, with the exception of Habana and perhaps one or two other places, there are no school facilities in that region. The whole amount of money appropriated in aid of school buildings erected recently was about \$20,000.

Mr. Palma says further:

"No public schools are within reach of the masses for their education. All the principal industries of the island are hampered by excessive imposts. Her



CAPTAIN JOSEPH FRY, Commander of the
"Virginia," shot at Santiago de Cuba.



Spanish soldiers bayoneting wounded members of
the "Virginia's" crew.

commerce with every country but Spain has been crippled in every possible manner, as can readily be seen by the frequent protests of shipowners and merchants.

"The Cubans have no security of person or property. The judiciary are instruments of the military authorities. Trial by military tribunals can be ordered at any time at the will of the captain-general. There is, besides, no freedom of speech, press or religion. In point of fact, the causes of the revolution of 1775 in this country were not nearly as grave as those that have driven the Cuban people to the various insurrections which culminated in the present revolution."

It cannot be denied that this is a temperate statement of a most fearful condition of affairs in Cuba.

The objection has been made, not in debate here, but in the public press, that the Cubans have no organized government; that they have no local habitation and name; that they have no legislative powers; that there is nobody elected to make laws. That is absolutely untrue. Here in this little pamphlet are the proceedings of the government of Cuba and of the people of Cuba in organizing the government. Here is a statement of the growth of the revolution, of the battles and campaigns, and contemporaneous with these movements the preliminary organization of local self-government as constituted.

Much to my surprise, because I took up the general

idea that those people, in the first instance, were merely a band of discontents, having no organization, with whom we could not deal, it is shown by this official document, communicated to the Secretary of State, that they have gone through all the formulæ of self-government as fully and completely as the people of the United States did at the beginning of the Revolution.

This little document shows the organization of the legislature, the military organization, the election of a President, M. Cisneros, a man of high character, of conceded ability, a man of property and standing, who also, I believe, took a prominent active part in the revolution of 1868 to 1878, besides being eminent in civil life.

Here are rules for the regulation of the army. Here are stipulations made as to the treatment of prisoners, how they shall be dealt with, and it is a remarkable fact that in all the battles fought by these wandering "robbers and bandits," as they have been called, whenever they captured a soldier of the Spanish army they released him and allowed him to return to his command. This humane and generous treatment is far different from the universal custom of the Spanish troops when one of the rebels is taken. He is sent to prison in Africa by the Spanish troops or is treated harshly, and in some cases murdered. These are poor men; the army is composed of native Cubans and men

some of whom have been freed from slavery, black people, but they have shown no signs of being guilty of the barbarous atrocity of which I shall have to speak hereafter, I am afraid injudiciously.

Now, here is a circular of the general-in-chief, General Gomez. The first article of that circular says:

"All prisoners captured in action or by the troops of the republic will be immediately liberated and returned to their ranks, unless they volunteer to join the army of liberation. The abandoned wounded will be gathered and attended to with all care, and the unburied dead interred.

"Art. 2. All persons who shall be arrested charged with committing the misdemeanors in the circular of July 1, by violating or disregarding the said order, will be summarily proceeded against."

There are many articles in this circular of commands and all of them in accordance with the most humane system of warfare.

This circular, which defines what is to be done with prisoners of war, is signed by Maximo Gomez, general-in-chief, and yet in many newspapers in our country he has been denounced as a murderer, a cruel, barbarous one, like the one I shall speak of after a while—the commander of the Spanish forces.

There are more than 100,000 Spanish troops now in that little island. Even before General Weyler went there, there were that many, and yet those troops

have not been able to put down the rebellion; they have not been able to check the movements of the Cuban army, though their number did not exceed thirty or forty thousand. It is a remarkable fact, too, that the Spanish troops and Spanish generals never trust with arms men of Cuban descent or Cuban birth. They are employed to take care of property; they are employed to look after plantations, to assist in driving off the rebels, as we may call them, from the plantations; but there is no case where the Spanish authorities have given to native Cubans arms and ammunition, because they know very well that they would be very unreliable troops in war against their countrymen.

The whole movement of the military force in Cuba is Spanish in its character. They have more troops now in Cuba than England ever had in the American colonies during our American Revolution. The force that has been brought to bear has been unable to check the movement of these wandering brigands, as they are called, in their triumphal march from one end of the island to the other.

Sometimes it is said that the local government has no habitation; that it has no place which it can hold to pass laws. In this respect they are like our Revolutionary fathers, who assembled at Philadelphia, adjourned to Baltimore, fled to Lancaster, and convened at Yorktown. The Cubans found a place in which

they framed a constitution, which is liberal and full, and it is here printed. It is true, it is not of the grandeur of, or in semblance to, the Constitution of the United States, but it is a sufficient constitution to govern 1,600,000 people.

Again, it is said that this is a government of negroes, and that that is an objection to their independence. It is true that about two-fifths of the people of Cuba are negroes or of negro descent. Of Spaniards there are only 9 per cent., and the native Cubans constitute the balance. Most of the negroes were emancipated at the close of the previous revolution in 1878. That was one of the terms and conditions of the settlement that was then made. Those negroes are now free. They are useful and necessary laborers, but it is said that they compose a part of the army. It is shown by the official records produced by Mr. Palma, a representative of that government, that of the entire force mustered by that government, one-fourth are either negroes or descendants of black men, and no more.

In every respect in which I can look at this matter, it seems to me that this comparatively ignorant, comparatively inoffensive population, composed of native Cubans, emancipated blacks, and of free mulattoes, have, by their victories over greater numbers, fairly acquired the position of belligerents. The 9 per cent. of the population who are Spaniards in all probability are on the side of the parent government, although, I

am told, as is shown here, that in some cases Spaniards by birth have joined in the movement for liberty and independence.

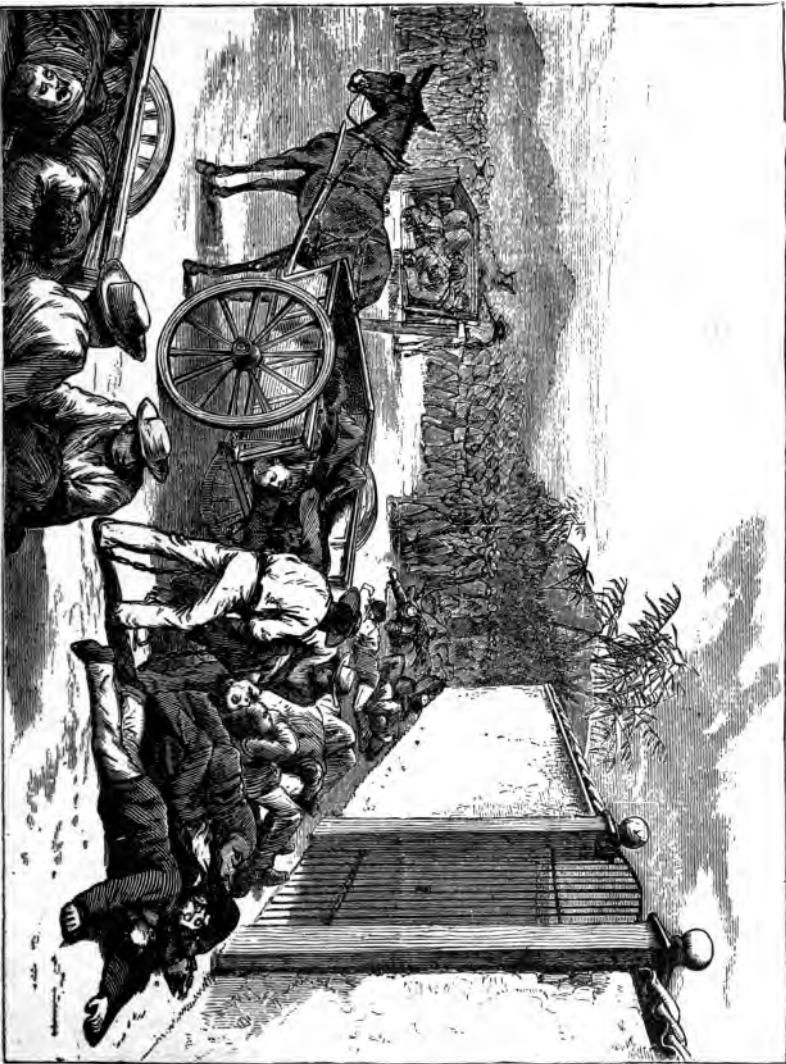
I will read an extract from a letter dated the 26th of February, 1896:

"I have traveled considerably over the island of Cuba, and have been interested in the history of the island, of Cuban affairs, and the study of those people.

"Not having had the pleasure of your personal acquaintance, it might be well for me to say to you that I am a citizen of Washington, and that I am interested extensively in and was one of the organizers and founders of the National Capital Bank, on Capitol Hill; that myself and the president of this bank have traveled in company over the territory which has been the scene of the recent bloody conflict, and that since our travels over this country I have become very greatly enthused with what seems to me to be the prospect of those people governing and maintaining themselves if they should ever be so fortunate as to achieve their independence.

"My observation of the Cuban prompts me to say that, unlike the Spaniard, he is true to his friends, law abiding, and honest in character. In this respect, he differs from any of the Spanish continental citizens, and I don't believe there is a place on this hemisphere that I would rather be placed in, absolutely helpless and unable to take care of myself, depending wholly

AFTER THE SHOOTING OF THE CREW OF THE "VIRGINIUS"—NEGROES OF THE CHAIN GANG TUMBLING THE DEAD BODY OF VICTIMS INTO MULE-CARTS.



upon the honor, integrity and good faith of the people with whom I was surrounded, than to be placed in a community of Cubans. They are brave, and will meet death, disaster and despair with the greatest amount of fortitude, I believe, on the face of the earth.

"Your allusions in your speech to the fact that in the last insurrection there were 13,000 Cubans killed on the battlefield and 43,000 of them slaughtered as prisoners of war seemed to astonish and open the eyes of some of your colleagues. I was sorry that you did not dwell upon a single comparison. Allow me to suggest it.

"According to the best historical authority, there were 57,000 Cubans who bit the dust during that insurrection."

I have always understood that the Cubans were a quiet, a peaceable, but not a very enterprising people. They had no system of education by which they could improve their condition. They had no aid from Spain. Every dollar of taxation that was levied there went to the Spanish government. They had no political rights or privileges worthy of the name.

The struggle of 1868-1878 was brought to an end by the kind intervention of General Campos, a gentleman, no doubt, of the highest character, kind and generous, yet one of the best soldiers that Spain has furnished of late years. That fearful contest, which involved an expenditure by Spain of over \$700,000,000, was con-

tinued for ten years by those wandering outlaws, as they are called, holding in check all the power of Spain during those long years, and only giving up resistance when peace was made upon terms granted by General Campos. They were liberal terms; they were honorable terms, such as the Cubans were willing to accept, and upon the adoption of which they were willing to lay down their arms.

What were those terms? The Cubans demanded local autonomy—some kind of home rule; they demanded that they should have control of their property, their surroundings, their schools, etc. That was promised to them. They demanded representation in the Cortes, and so they had three men sent to the Cortes, a body, I believe, of some 300 men, and, as a matter of course, they were lost there, and the Cortes paid no attention whatever to them. The Cubans had a so-called local government, composed, I believe, of about thirty persons, one-half nominated by Spain, the other half nominated by the people of Cuba, and then when the question of voting came up, the body of the natives were practically disfranchised.

So Spain, although she entered into the plausible agreement to bring about peace with Cuba, yet practically violated her own engagements. She failed to carry out the stipulations which she made to her own people, and the result was that within a few years afterwards the feeble Cubans, alarmed at the condition of

affairs, their property taken and devoured by taxation, rendered poor, reckless, without means of education except a few who were planters, again took up arms.

But it is said that the Cubans took a man from outside of the island to command their army. So they did. They took a man named Gomez, who, according to all the evidence that I have and all the statements made in this very one-sided document, is a man of character, a man of standing, probably an idealist. He was born in San Domingo, but he has always resisted any kind of tyranny. He exposes his life now in endeavoring to secure home rule for Cuba. He ought to be and will be considered a patriot in some future day.

I wish to say a word in respect to the treatment by Spain of her colonies. I have no desire to say anything unkind about Spain. Spain, through Columbus, discovered America. Four centuries ago Spain was a nation of great power, controlling not only the peninsula of Spain, but a large portion of Europe through Charles V; but Spain has never developed any power to manage a colony. It has never in a single instance, in all her numerous colonies, embracing originally the larger part of South America and Mexico and the island of Cuba, conceived or acted upon a policy of kindness or justice to her conquered subjects. It has never been fair to the natives. On the

contrary, Spain's rule was iron, its demands were implacable, and refusal of obedience was death.

It is impossible to read, without being shocked, the history of any country conquered by Spain in the days of its power, with all the atrocities and crimes committed. The story of Pizarro and Cortez, as told by Prescott, is a record of Spanish courage and Spanish cruelty, of bloody massacres and harsh injustice to the races they conquered. Recall the scenes that happened in the Netherlands under the Duke of Alva, a name that will be remembered and hated as among the most cruel of mankind. The Dutch in the Netherlands struggled with the great power of the Spanish government, and saved their country in spite of cruelty and barbarous warfare.

Spain had possession of nearly all South America. What has she done with it? She has lost it all. Not by foreign power, but by the men she has attempted to rule, by Mexico, Chile and all the countries of South America; and now her last vestige of power on the American continents hangs over 1,600,000 people of Cuba.

If Cuba had not been in that insular position where her coasts could be dominated by any naval power, the people of Cuba would long ago have been free. But, unfortunately, a rebel within could not by any possibility have any control of the building of ships to defend his island from encroachment. The island was

open to Spain, and it is a wonder to me how, under the circumstances in which they are placed, the people of Cuba have made such advances. I may say that Cuba has been in almost constant war during this generation. I need not go into the details of the various outbreaks, but in the one from 1868 to 1878 she not only maintained her power during all that period, but compelled Spain to a sacrifice that practically brought about her bankruptcy.

Now, it seems to me that under those circumstances Spain could easily, readily, have conciliated those people who, after all, were more friendly to Spain than any other portion of the Spanish colonies. Why not concede to them autonomy, local rights? There are but two countries in America of any great importance which are now dominated by kingly power. One is Canada. But what is the history of Canada? Canada is now as free as the Republics of America. Her people can pass laws as they please, and they are never vetoed. Canada is practically an independent country. England has extended to its people a policy which she ought to have extended to her United Colonies of America in 1776. If the same policy which has been pursued latterly in Canada had been pursued with our fathers in the Revolution, British power would probably have been exercised over the American colonies for many years after 1776. We can thank George III and his Tory ministry for their unjust measures in our Rev-

olution, because it compelled our people to assert their power of self-government and to establish a great republic among the nations of the world.

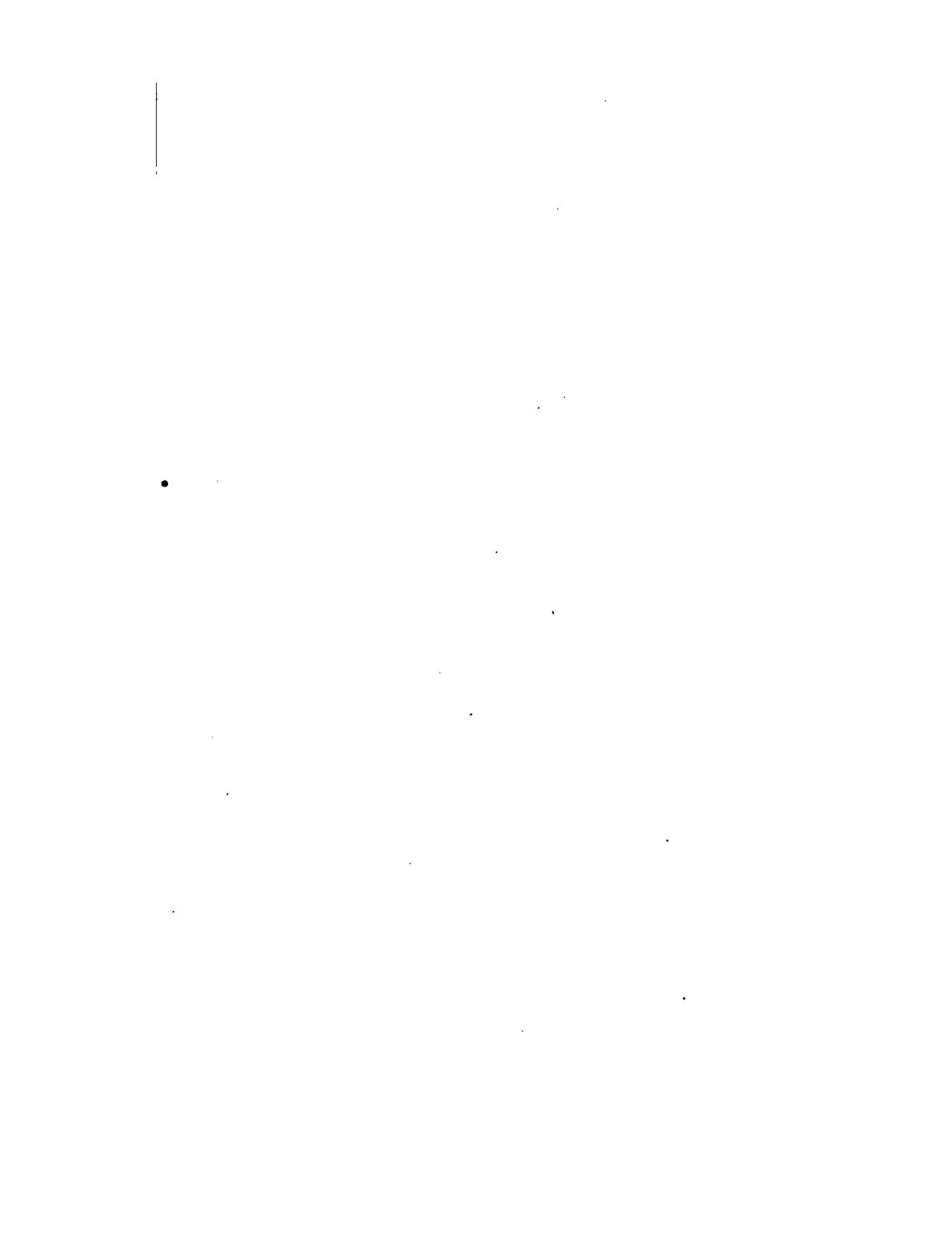
In Canada, Great Britain has been wise and liberal. It has done everything. The Canadians have a parliament. They have every function and attribute of a government. They have provinces and separate communities, with full autonomy and power to levy taxes. They not only levy taxes upon their own property, but they levy taxes upon goods imported from England, as well as from any other country in the world. It is folly to say that Canada is a possession in the sense considered by Spain. England was wise enough to foresee that a liberal policy was necessary to hold distant possessions; but Spain never could learn this lesson, never could find out that a colony had inherent rights, never could govern its distant subjects with Spanish rule, except by the policy of violence and injustice, of vengeance and barbarity.

This very question that we are now debating, strange as it may seem, came up and was before the Senate in 1870, two years after the rebellion that I have referred to occurred, and then it was that in the Senate of the United States I introduced a resolution, which read as follows:

“Whereas the United States observe with deep interest the civil war now existing in Cuba, and sympathize with the people of all American nations or colo-



A SPANISH ADVANCED POST, OUTSIDE REMEDIOS



nies in their efforts to secure independence of European power: Therefore

"Be it resolved, That the United States recognize the existence of a state of war between the Kingdom of Spain and the colony of Cuba, waged on the part of Cuba to establish its independence, and the United States will observe a strict neutrality between the belligerent parties, as is their duty under the law of nations."

That resolution was introduced by me at the date stated. The conditions under which it was introduced were rather peculiar. At that time, General Grant was understood to be very strongly in favor of taking determined measures to put an end to Spanish rule in Cuba. It was felt generally throughout the country, and especially in Washington, that the rebellion ought to end, and the general feeling was that General Grant would bring it to some head; that he would either persuade Spain to sell Cuba or in some way bring about the independence of the Cubans. But Mr. Hamilton Fish, his Secretary of State, was no doubt largely controlled by the commercial interests of the city of New York and the State of New York. I do not complain of that. He was very much opposed to this policy, and resisted it to the utmost.

Finally, General Grant yielded. General Grant did not often yield, and in many cases he did not yield where it was supposed he did, but he did yield his ideas

upon that subject. The strongest possible statement of the objections to our interfering in Spain and to our recognition of their belligerency is stated in the message of General Grant in 1875, and I think everyone who is familiar with the writings of Mr. Fish will see that it was practically his work.

Therefore it was that we did then as we are doing now—we let the thing run along. I did not call up the resolution for final action or for consideration, because I knew that without the assent of the President it was perfectly idle for us to seek any measure for the relief of Cuba. So things passed along, until, finally, in 1878, in the beginning of the administration of Mr. Hayes, the matter was settled, and it was supposed that it had been settled upon liberal terms which would supply to the people of Cuba an autonomy and protect them at least in their local interests.

Senators may not be interested in the constitution of the Provisional Government, the action of the constituent assembly, but here it is. I will not read it. There is not a right enjoyed by the people of the United States that is not secured here. Their government is a simple and plain republic, with but little form or ceremony. It is a substantial grant to all the people who live there, without distinction of race or color, of liberty and the right to manage their own affairs. Here is the law of marriage, and many other laws that have been passed there, regulations which

had not been provided by the Spanish government. Here is the military organization. They divide their army into five corps, and place General Gomez at the head of it all. Two of them are commanded by the two Maceos, who are, I believe, mixed blood. The whole organization is here given. The President, Cisneros, is a man of the highest character, as is shown, I believe, even by the statement of the pamphlet by an "American" that I have referred to.

Besides the mere ideal interest of the United States in protecting a feeble republic struggling for liberty, we have more material interests with Cuba than with any other country of this hemisphere. Our purchases and our dealings with Cuba are nearly equal to all that are bought from or sold to all other American countries. The statistics upon that point are here given. Perhaps a mere reference to the value will show that we have not only ideal interests, but that we have real business interests in Cuba.

We take from Cuba and Puerto Rico imports to the value of \$82,715,120. We send to Cuba \$26,668,000 of exports. Our entire exports to all the West India islands, other than Cuba, amount to only \$19,000,000, as compared with \$26,000,000 to Cuba. And so with Mexico. Although it is supposed that we are largely increasing our trade with Mexico, yet after all the entire imports from Mexico amount to \$33,000,000, while the amount of imports from Cuba amount to \$82,000,-

000. The exports to Mexico amount to \$19,000,000, while the exports to Cuba amount to \$26,000,000. Taking all the countries of South America combined, the exports and imports representing the dealings with the United States are larger in Cuba than in all South America.

This shows that by our proximity to these people, such as we have not with other portions of the American continent, our trade with Cuba is greater than that with other American countries. If any nation outside of Spain is interested in Cuba it is the United States of America. We have already settled as a fixed fact, which none will dispute, that no other country in Europe can claim or acquire ownership in Cuba. That was guarded against by our ancestors forty and fifty years ago, so that now there is no country that could be appealed to so strongly for any assistance that may be given to those people fighting for their liberty as to the people of the United States of America.

Mark it, I am not in favor of the annexation of Cuba to the United States. I do not desire to conquer the Cubans in any sense. I do not desire to have any influence whatever upon their local autonomy. In my judgment, they ought to be attached to Mexico as a part of that country, because the Mexicans speak the same language, they have the same origin and the same antecedents, and are under many of the same circumstances. Therefore I should be very glad if by

any measure Cuba should be attached to Mexico; but as to Spain I do not believe that Cuba will ever be of any advantage to Spain hereafter. They already say that on account of the rebellion thus far proceeded with favorably all the interests of Spain are practically destroyed. Those people who are now fighting for their liberty, though I think it is perhaps against the laws of war, destroy sugar-cane and all the products of the earth, in order to prevent them from going to support the Spanish army, but we even did that in our civil war. We destroyed property when it was supposed it might be used for the good of the enemy. They have never violated in any case the rules or articles of war.

Now we come to the saddest aspect of this question. Spain has evidently withdrawn Campos, who was a friendly, fair and open ruler, and who sought in every way he could to bring about some agreement between the two countries, because they are now two separate countries. Campos was withdrawn, and there was put in his place a Spanish general of renown, who has been long in the army, is well known, and of late has been christened "the butcher." Events have happened within the last thirty days that have changed the whole of my feeling in regard to this matter. This man Weyler, if we can judge by what he has done, and if he is to be judged by what he threatens to do, is one of the worst men who could be sent there to pacify a peo-

ple or to compel them to surrender. His warfare is massacre. He openly avows it.

A book was published in Spanish which I am very sorry I could not get from the library, written by a Spaniard by the name of Enrique Donderio, who had come over from Spain with the Spanish troops to see the war of 1870, and who was so horror-stricken with the awful crimes that he saw committed that he fled to the United States, and there compiled his manuscript. Telling is this evidence, and it shows General Weyler, stripped of all the honorable aims of military authority, as a brute, pure and simple, his hands forever stained with the blood of defenseless men and women. This book I cannot read in the Spanish language, but it was translated by one of the great journals of the country, the New York Journal, and as something more important to this country than anything that I could say, I ask the secretary to read from it some extracts which I have marked, which disclose the character and action of this General Weyler.

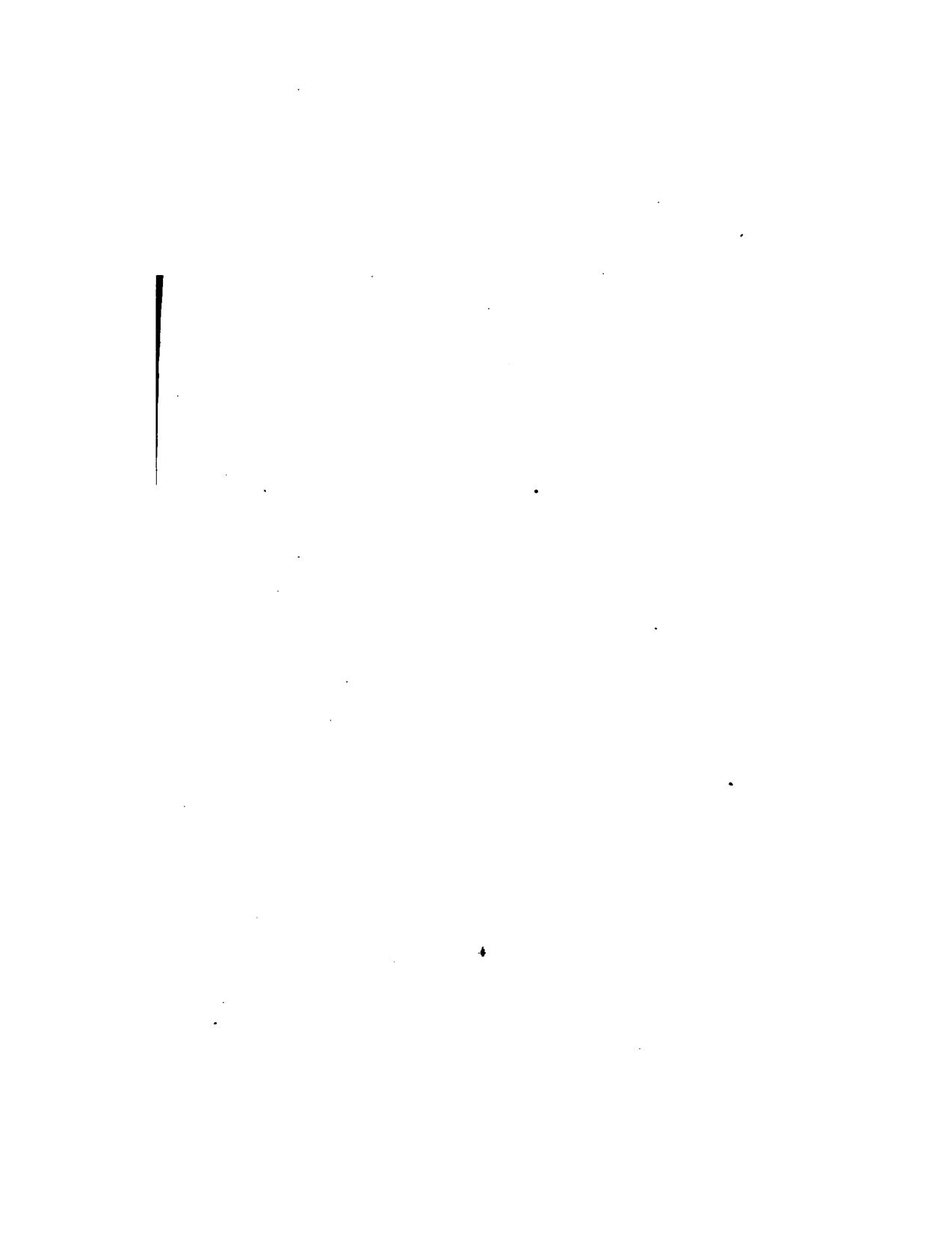
The secretary read as follows:

VILLAINOUS OUTRAGES.

"It was not alone that he carried out the brutal orders of Valmeseda. Had he done only that the Cubans of today would fix the blame upon Valmeseda instead of upon him. But he went much further; he took it



THE "VIRGINIUS" OUTRAGE—SHOOTING OF FOUR PROMINENT CUBAN PATRIOTS.



upon himself to cause the outrage and murder of scores of women in the small towns and villages that lay in the district he was commanding. The details of these outrages are too horrible almost to relate, but they need to be told to show what manner of man this is who is now attempting to throttle Cuba.

"His favorite amusement was entering into a village with a regiment of soldiers and "rounding up" all the women to be found in the dwellings. If there happened to be any men left in the village at that time, they would be shot down without delay. The women huddled together in a frightened group; he would form his troops in a hollow square, facing inward, and then, having three or four of the women—and even little girls of the tender ages of ten or eleven years—stripped absolutely naked, he would drive them into the square at the point of the bayonet, and make them dance until exhausted, the double file of sensual Spaniards gazing on in delight.

"When one set had fallen panting to the ground, he would deliver them over to the soldiers for their gratification, and bring out others, until every woman in the village, stripped, had been forced to submit to these terrible indignities. Finally, the tortured creatures would be put out of their misery by being hacked literally to pieces with swift strokes of the sharp Cuban machetes.

"This machete is a long, slightly curved Cuban knife,

very sharp and heavy, used for cutting and not thrusting. In times of peace, it is employed for cutting sugar-cane, but in times of war it is one of the most deadly of implements. The Spanish troops invariably use the machete, adopting it soon after their arrival in Cuba.

"Weyler's troops used to use this knife, by his orders, with great effectiveness. Another scheme of his, which he carried out frequently with great satisfaction to himself, was the holding of a ball in some large building in a town. He would send a great number of invitations around for this, including everybody that he had made up his mind to kill. Now, an invitation from General Weyler was not to be treated lightly. Nobody dared to refuse it, in fact. No man's life would have been worth the thinking about if he decided not to go. Some of these balls used to pass off very smoothly and without any deviation from the programme of a regular Cuban dance.

"But this was not often. At some time during the evening—at every other ball at least—after liquor had been flowing freely and the men and women guests who did not dare to do anything else than drink were pretty well stupified, a sudden hush would fall over the room, the music would stop, and a gang of Weyler's soldiers, with murderous machetes in their hands, would rush in, slashing right and left, and, keeping both doors and windows guarded, so that hardly a per-

son could escape. The women, of course, would be saved for orgies later on. On one occasion of this sort, it is recalled, the carnage was so fierce that not even the hired musicians escaped with their lives.

WORSE THAN THE KURDS.

"Here is another incident, taken down from the lips of a Cuban of position, who lives in New York city today:

"You can refer to the country place named Levado, belonging to Maguilara, who was Vice-President of the then republic of Cuba. Weyler came to that country place and found, sick in bed and almost dying, Eugenio Odardoy Tomagno and his brother. They were almost dead of consumption and in a state of ulceration. Weyler had them dragged out of their beds, dragged through the hallways and outdoors to a little wood. There they were cut to pieces with machetes —actually minced.

"The wife of the manager of the estate, who was there with her little daughter, eight or nine years old, was taken out of the house, deprived of her clothing, and made to dance, together with her little daughter. Both were afterwards outraged and hacked to pieces."

"In Donderio's book, mentioned above, the writer (who, it must be remembered, was a Spaniard and not a Cuban, and who would certainly not have told false-

hoods against his countrymen) gives these three thrilling little dramas of horror, taken from the reign of Weyler at this period:

"As we approached the ruined village of Boire, we saw coming toward us the guerrillas of a Spanish column, who, in a reconnoitring expedition in the woods thereabout, had found a small colony of Cuban families whose male individuals they had all assassinated, and whose ears they were bringing, strung on their bayonets, so as to show the number they had killed and claim the reward, as if they had been wild beasts.

"In one of the camps one could contemplate the troops looking with almost the satisfaction of tigers upon four women that they had captured. Three of them were from sixteen to twenty years of age, and the other was more advanced in years and was accompanied by two small girls from seven to nine years old, whose mother she was. When the shades of night began to fall, the soldiers took an especial delight in telling these women what their fate would be, just for the satisfaction of seeing them weep and hearing them pray for mercy.

"The lady to whom I have referred above belonged to the wealthy family of Los Penos. She thought to soften the hearts of the soldiers by presenting to them her two little daughters, who were besides rather sickly, and praying that they should not be condemned to an act which would, without doubt, cause their im-

mediate death. But all her supplications were in vain. The soldiers were finally given authority to do with the women as they pleased. Next morning they were all dead.

“I once witnessed the arrival of a column at a small Cuban settlement with thirteen families. The women were separated from the men, and were then compelled to gather the wood with which their relatives were to be reduced to ashes, after being butchered. The women were, of course, according to the usual custom, ravished a little later.

“We have witnessed ourselves, with our own eyes, what we have described.”

“These are excerpts picked out at random from Donderio’s book, and the three stories are unconnected. They are translated literally from the original Spanish, and the peculiar idoms are kept.

MORE OF HIS CRIMES.

“Weyler, however, did not confine his barbarities to women. With men he was brutal, almost beyond the power of words to describe. A Cuban gentleman of this city recalls the following instance:

“In one of the jails there were more than twenty political prisoners, almost all lawyers, physicians and representative men of the district. He went in one day with an enormous club and beat them unmercifully,



sward. Then, having the daughters held tightly by the guards, he proceeded to order several of his soldiers to hack the young boys to pieces with machetes. The screams of the victims and the wails of their agonized relatives would have stopped any other man short in his dreadful course. But Weyler only smiled.

"The boys now lying dead, 'The Butcher' signaled to his soldiers to bring forward the girls. They were pretty, dainty señoritas, in the first flush and blush of womanhood, and Weyler's smile grew more sardonic as they were marched before him. Then and there, in full sight of the father and mother, he had his soldiers strip the youngest woman of every article of their clothing, and for half an hour force them to dance upon the green turf with all the troops looking on. With the agony of seeing their sons slain before their eyes and their daughters in such a humiliating position, the parents were nearly insane.

"Yet Weyler was not through yet.

"It sounds absolutely impossible to say that any man could be possessed of such cruelty, but facts are facts, and it is the sober truth, vouched for by several Cubans in this city, that immediately following the dancing, with the distracted father and mother still looking on, 'The Butcher' gave instructions to have the girls violated there before their eyes.

"It proved the death of both of them, and left the

father and mother—whose lives Weyler spared—hopelessly insane."

This is the character of man who is put in charge of this rebellion by Spain. I do not know how others feel about it, but the character of this man, his barbarous atrocity, his inhuman cruelty—I can use no stronger language—he is a demon, rather than a general. Spain has sent such a man as that, who did what it is said here that he did, in command of 100,000 troops, to ride roughshod over, to kill, to slaughter a feeble body of people. The other day my honorable friend from Massachusetts, Mr. Lodge, read (and I have no doubt every Senator had the same feeling that I did) where this man made a speech after he had been appointed general, saying what he was going to do when he came to the island of Cuba and was placed in its chief command, with full power and absolute control over 1,600,000 people. This is what he said:

"On arriving in Cuba I propose to exterminate the filibusters—"

What does he mean by exterminating them? Is it the kind of conduct that is described in the paper already read and recited by one of his associates?

"On arriving in Cuba I propose to exterminate the filibusters first in the provinces of Habana, Pinar del Rio, Matanzas and Las Villas. Of course, it is to be understood that I refer to the large groups that invade them. Afterwards the small parties of bandits will re-

main, which I will slowly exterminate. At all events, great activity is needed in the present circumstances."

We have seen that this actual tragedy has already commenced. I read in a morning paper—it is open to all—the account of about the first battle which has been fought there since the arrival of this general, and the murder of unoffending prisoners. I wish to say upon my own responsibility that if this line of conduct is pursued by Spain in Cuba, and the people of the United States are informed of its conditions as they are narrated daily in the public papers, there is no earthly power that will prevent the people of the United States from going over to that island, running all over its length and breadth, and driving out from the little island of Cuba these barbarous robbers and imitators of the worst men who ever lived in the world.

Now, leaving the combatants to fight their battles, let me say a few words in regard to the general policy of the United States. Ever since the establishment of our own independence, after a long struggle, it was well understood, and announced by General Washington, and by all the great men of the time, especially by Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison and Mr. Monroe, that the general policy of the United States was to secure to the people of all nations in America republican rule and self-government. One of the great disciples of this doctrine was Henry Clay; but, indeed, all the American statesmen of that time concurred in the opinion

that every effort short of actual warfare, every aid, should be given to the South American and even the North American States in favor of their liberty and their separation from the parent government.

I have already said that so far as Canada is concerned, its condition has been so favorable that the Canadians do not desire even to form a kinship or to join our great country, nor would I with my present convictions vote to admit Canada into the Union of States. I think that the plan of government of many States and one people has its limits, and beyond a certain extent it is not wise to increase the number of States. Besides, I would be against admitting any State that was not in all its parts practically republican and free.

In the framing of the resolution that is now before us, when the committee undertook to draft a resolution expressing the desire of the United States, it was found to be a much more difficult task than was suspected. However, finally the committee agreed upon the resolution presented by the honorable Senator from Alabama, Mr. Morgan, and it was agreed to subsequently that the main proposition contained in the resolutions offered by the Senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. Cameron, should be added as an addition to that resolution, so that, if it is offered by the Senator from Pennsylvania now, whatever sanction the committee can give to them will be given. I will read it, as it is very short:

“Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That, in the opinion of Congress a condition of public war exists between the government of Spain and the government proclaimed and for some time maintained by force of arms by the people of Cuba; and that the United States of America should maintain a strict neutrality between the contending powers, according to each all the rights of belligerents in the ports and territory of the United States.”

The amendment proposed by the Senator from Pennsylvania is as follows:

“Resolved further, That the friendly offices of the United States should be offered by the President to the Spanish government for the recognition of the independence of Cuba.”

The resolutions in the House of Representatives, as they were introduced by the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House, are also excellent statements of the position of the American government. Personally I would be very willing to vote for those resolutions, or either of them or any of them. There were many questions that were discussed by Senators upon the other side of the chamber as to what should be done by the President. Some thought that a joint resolution ought to be sent to the President of the United States. There were objections made to that course. It was conceded on all hands in the committee that the final decision of this question of peace or war, or the

condition of belligerency, must rest with the President of the United States. That seemed to be the general opinion upon that point, but upon other questions there was a difference of opinion.

But I believe that the passage of the resolution now reported, together with the addition made by the Senator from Pennsylvania, will define the policy of the United States. I think I can say with entire confidence in my view as to the desire of the people of the United States, we do not want to hear any more about Cuba; we do not want Cuba; we do not desire it; we wish to trade with it; we are its best customer, but we do not intend that the laws of civilized society, that the usages among Christian nations, that the habits of a modern civilization shall be thwarted by Spain in her further government of Cuba. It is certain that the spirit of the age will demand that of Spain. Let me say, that not only the United States of America, but every country of America will do it. Probably for the first time an opportunity will be presented to draw the line upon questions that are American and European. The line might be drawn on Cuba if the United States should believe in the end that it is wise to assist these rebels, as they are called, in seeking self-government; and if we do it we shall not do it alone. If Weyler carries out his projected plan, there is not a portion of the country in this hemisphere, in North or South America, from the northern to the southern ocean, but

SCENE ON SUGAR PLANTATION, CUBA.





will join to contribute in putting an end to that violence. It has lasted long enough. That people ought to be allowed, in their way, to form their own government, to be free as we are.

It may be that in time that country, containing but 1,600,000 inhabitants now, will contain more than 10,000,000 people; it may be one of the great island powers of the world, not equal to Great Britain, not equal to Ireland, but still greater and stronger—many times stronger—than it can ever be under the power of Spain. Every Christian man, every man who believes in the civilization of our age, every American in all our broad land who hates tyranny and oppression, whether it come from a government or a tyrant, is opposed to cruelty. We do not want an Armenia near our shores, and if one shall be established there it will be overthrown.

We will not shield ourselves behind the position taken by the British government in the case of Armenia, that Armenia was so far away and beyond her power that Great Britain could not help those people when they were being murdered. That was no doubt a true position, and it was difficult under the circumstances for Great Britain to interfere. I do not say this as a matter of criticism. But Cuba lies right at our shore. A few hours will carry us across to Habana, the capital of that beautiful island, which is rich in production, which contains the best sugar lands in the

world, a country capable of holding 5,000,000 people and giving them active and prosperous employment—people of a gentle and kindly race, not disposed to warfare, unless it be to resent intrusion and tyranny.

Whatever may be the result of the adoption of this measure, I desire to take my share of responsibility in connection with it, and with a confidence in the judgment of the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, I believe it will be wise if we can assist, and all the other nations of American concur, in securing to the people of Cuba the same liberties we now enjoy.

CHAPTER X.

A TRIP TO THE INTERIOR WITH GENERAL GRANT.

In 1880, Mr. Byron Andrews, a newspaper correspondent, visited Cuba, in the capacity of press correspondent, with General Grant and his party. The letters which he then wrote he has recently published in a pamphlet, "Story of Cuba," and it will be of interest to many readers to see what he has to say in reference to the country and its people.

Writing from San Diego Los Banos, in the province of Pinar del Rio, under date of January 29, that year, the story runs as follows:

Yesterday General Grant and party left Havana at 9 o'clock in the morning for a visit to the interior. The first objective point was this place, San Diego Los Banos, as its name indicates, famous for its baths. The train was a special, and left three hours later than the regular, which starts but once daily, and at 6 o'clock in the morning. The country along the line of the railway is like a garden. It used to be given over to coffee-growing almost entirely, orange and other trees being planted for shade simply. Now, tobacco and sugar pay better, and the coffee culture has been al-

most entirely abandoned. There are intervals of uncultivated lands, but for the most part the eye rests upon nothing but one expanse of great plantations of sugar-cane. There are no fences, and the hundreds of domestic animals that graze everywhere are all tied to small stakes. The cattle are fastened by a rope passing through the cartilage of the nose, but out of respect for the importance of the member in the case of the pig, he is tethered by the foot.

THE PALMS.

The ever-occurring palm tree lends beauty to the scene. They grow everywhere, in groups or rows, or sometimes in great forests. They rear their tall tops above the almond and fig and orange, and give a dignity to the woods. For fifty or even 100 feet their trunks stand straight and smooth like masts, and then the top spreads out like an umbrella, with its long drooping foliage. There are several varieties quite common, but the most frequent are the creole, cocoa and date palm. The creole variety is the most stately, with its large white trunk and great clusters of fruit. It is the most valuable tree of the country. At the termination of the white, or main, portion of the trunk is a section of green, reaching up to where the leaves have their apparent base, for about six or eight feet. This is really a part of the foliage, being the spathe of the

leaf, and each month a leaf falls, and with it the spathe, which encircles the tree in a thin sheet of natural, husk-like fibre. When spread out it is of an oblong shape, six to eight feet by three, and is used as a wrapper for the bales of tobacco. When it falls it leaves a ring where its base is separated from the bark of the tree, and adds so much, about two or three inches usually, to the height of the trunk. In the interior, these wrappers are worth \$3 a dozen. At the base of the spathe grow the clusters of the fruit, a kind of nut as large as the coffee-bean, which is the universal food of the hogs. Owing to these qualities, the planter is assessed at the rate of fifty cents each for every tree on his land.

THE CANE.

The date-palm is not much prized, simply because it is neglected, and but little of the fruit sent to the market. All the trees are in full foliage, although it is winter, except the Ceiba, perhaps the only one in the island that marks the succession of the seasons by dropping its leaves. The cane grows here forever. It is very common to see a field that has not been replanted for thirty years. The stalks grow thick and rather small, and the ground is not cultivated or enriched at all, but the exhausting process of cutting the crop once a year and allowing it to come up again is continued till the soil is worn out, and the stalk grows

smaller and smaller, until finally it no longer pays to work it, and then it is plowed and turned to pasture. There are many orange groves, but the banana and plantain are more extensively grown. There is much maize too, but the natives do not know anything about the pleasures of the corn-dodger. They make a kind of pancake they call a tortilla, but bread made from cornmeal is an unknown commodity; in fact, so is any other bread, by the rustics, the wheat flour used by the upper classes being brought from the United States. The sweet potato and another root called the yucca, found everywhere, are the staple substitutes.

The soil of the country we passed through does not impress the Northern visitor favorably at first sight, but it is better than it looks. The color is a deep red, tinted by the sesquioxide of iron, and is very fertile, despite its hue.

THE VOLANTE.

The travelers arrived at Paso Real, about 100 miles from Havana, at 2 o'clock, having made a short stop at San Cristobal to see the effects of a recent earthquake. After a lunch, the journey to the baths was resumed in volantes.

This volante must be seen to be appreciated. It is like a balloon on wheels, an Irish jaunting car in its proclivity to upset, and a phaeton in its general con-



BULL-FIGHT SCENE.

venience and the ease with which the traveler rides in its capacious interior, as soon as he has gained confidence in it. Imagine a vehicle with two wheels as large as those of an American sulky, set wide apart. To the axletree are attached thills twice as long as necessary, in which is balanced the carriage-bed at one end and the animal is hitched to the other. Then there are two other mules or horses hitched by ropes, extending back and made fast almost anywhere on the vehicle. On one of these animals is perched a postillion with a whip. About a quarter of a mile of these things were stretched out in the vicinity of the station for the use of the party. One was painted red, and in this were placed General and Mrs. Grant. Aside from the color, all seemed to be the same, and of equally doubtful character and wonderful construction. There was a great deal of loud talking, good-natured and otherwise; of cracking of whips and backing and twisting of the unruly animals and unwieldy vehicles, and we were finally away. They spared nothing, but set off at a merry pace, regardless of the effect. The road from Paso Real to San Diego has probably never been repaired since the original settlers took possession of the island. If it has, it does not speak well for the work of the engineers. As long as it led along the level plain it was all very well. Soon a succession of hills was reached. Then the fun began. The rocking volantes rolled and swung till the occupants had

to hold on for their lives. It made no difference to the rider; he had only one object in view—to reach San Diego. He did not seem to care whether the travelers survived to the termination of the journey or not; so on they flew, over ditches washed out during the rainy season, perhaps twenty years ago, up hill and down, three leagues, to San Diego of the Baths.

THE TROPIC SCENE.

The scene along this road can never be painted. It is like a fancy picture of Paradise. The first half of the way is across a tolerably level country, where beautiful little prairies, or llanos, with here and there a palm, are succeeded by patches of forest lands, just like the other, in fact, except for the abundance of trees. It makes little difference in one respect how thickly these palms grow. Each, with its smooth trunk, seems to stand alone, as though its particular portion of the earth had been set apart for its use, and it enjoyed it in silence. There is no friendly clustering of one near another, but each grows there the lord of the plain, unconscious of its neighbors. Only when the black hundra or the chirping warblers mount for a moment to its lofty top does it seem to live as other trees it overshadows.

As the mountains are approached, at the foot of

which San Diego stands, the road leads up a little hill. On its crest the view is of such magnificence that Mr. Frank H. Taylor, the artist who rode with the correspondent, and Senor Beguria, of the *Triumpho* [a newspaper since suppressed by the government], halted the rider in his reckless course to make a sketch. It is doubtful if he caught that scene. From the hill over which the road crosses sweeps a gentle slope, rising again and terminating in a little mound, outlined against the receding plain beyond. Almond, mamey and palm trees dot the slope with varying shades of green. The broad, flat valley, that spreads out toward the west forms the centre of the picture. It is covered with luxuriant growth of grass, to which the recent rain has lent an unseasonable freshness. At the foot of the hills the chalky trunks of the palms can be seen, but as they go farther and farther away the white outline is lost, and all that remains is the deep emerald tint of the tops that stand like dots painted upon the milder hues of the background. In the distance the mountains rise, veiled in a gauze of blue, and behind all the sinking sun, that gilds and touches everything with the warmth of its tropic rays. The green, palm-dotted plain, the azure-tinted mountains, the yellow sunshine and the silence of broad expanse is a scene in which the poetic brush of Turner would have reveled.

SAN DIEGO LOS BANOS.

It was near dusk when the caravan drew up at the hotel at San Diego. The village is situated upon a little hill on the banks of the San Diego river, a small stream in the dry season, but a torrent during the rainy months. The population numbers about 500, but for three months in the year ten times as many. In the spring season it is fashionable to go to this resort, and people from all parts of the island may be found here. Not only do invalids make their appearance, but their friends also, and the place is very gay. It is at once, for the time being, both the Saratoga and the Hot Springs of Cuba. The village now is very quiet; in fact, the strangers are just beginning to arrive. The houses are all very good, chiefly of one story, of a snowy whiteness, with broad verandas and tile roofs. The hotels, of which there are six in the place, are two stories in height, with rough brick floors and very little given to ornamentation. Their homely roughness is not unpleasant, however, to the traveler accustomed to the elegance of the great caravanseries of the United States. It is a change, and the excellence of the table and the good order that reigns are a surprise amid such surroundings.

The springs have been known and used by Europeans since 1740, but they were not improved by bath-houses and other structures necessary to a sanitary

and pleasure resort till 1862. There are two of these springs that flow from the rocky banks of the river, called the Templado and Tigre Springs, both thermal and sulphurous. Their temperature is uniform the year round, being $91\frac{1}{4}$ ° Fahrenheit. The Templado discharges 21,000 gallons of water a minute, and the Tigre about one-fourth as much.

The next morning the travelers took a bath before breakfast, and, while not noticing anything as remarkable as was fondly supposed by the Spaniards a hundred years ago from the springs of the New World, still a swim around the room in hot water was found to be pleasant and invigorating. If not completely restored to youth, the bathers felt younger after the experience.

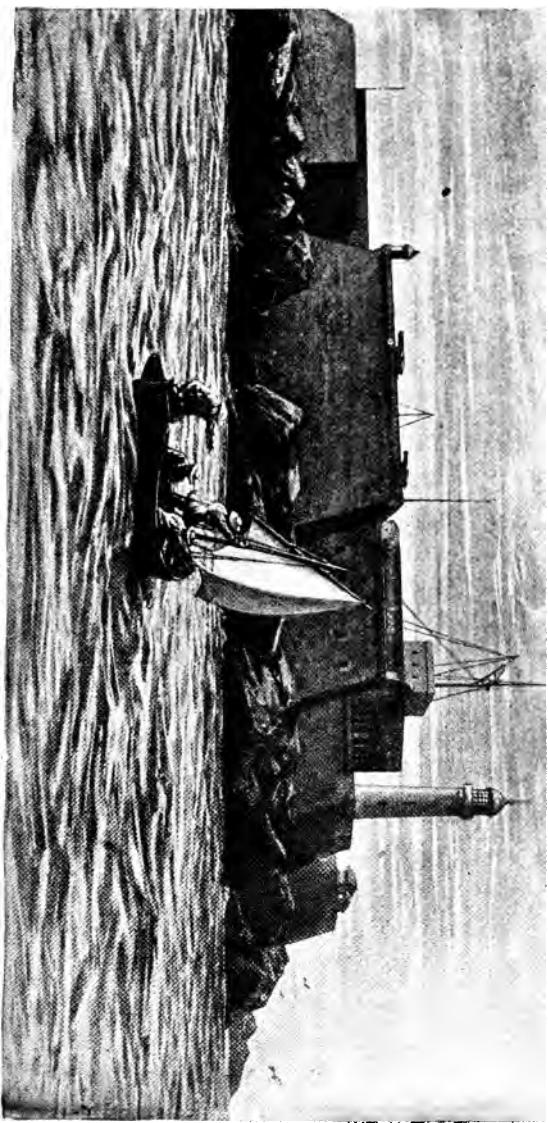
A DRINK FROM THE TREES.

This afternoon, the male members of the party took a stroll across the river to the hills beyond. Passing the clumps of bamboo that grow along the stream, the palm forests were entered. The lower growth is mango, sour orange and the almond, chiefly, and the woodland is very strange and beautiful to one from the North. There were some cocoas also, and a native climbed the tall, smooth trunk of one with a rope and machete to procure a bunch of nuts. When he cut off the cluster of half a dozen nuts, he tied the rope to the

stem, and, passing it over a branch, lowered it carefully to a companion on the ground. The fruit had grown to full size, but was not ripe, except for the water. When the husk was cut nearly through at the smaller end, a knife was inserted and a hole an inch in diameter made, through which the liquid was drunk. The cavity at this season contains nearly a quart of water. As the nut ripens this disappears, leaving only the small quantity of milk and the meat which appears in the commercial cocoa that is found in foreign markets. Now, there was simply a line to mark where the shell would be, a film to show the beginning of the growth of the substance of the fruit. The natives told us that in seven or eight months it would be ripe.

THE FAMOUS MACHETE.

We approached a dwelling of a native and inspected the surroundings. The house was made of a framework of bamboo, thatched with the long leaves of the palm, while the foliage of the same tree covered the exterior of the walls. The floor was the mother earth, and most of the domestic utensils were made of the shell of the gourd. The master of the house was dressed in coarse cotton cloth that once was white, with shoes on his feet and a palm-leaf hat on his head. At his side hung the national implement and weapon, the terrible machete. This last is a heavy sword or knife,



THE CUBAN INSURRECTION: MORO CASTLE, AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE HARBOR OF HAVANA.
Built on a bed of black rocks, under the direction of the first Captain-General of Cuba, Don Juan de Tejeda, about the year 1500. Its old walls have stood many a siege by British, French

with a thick, straight blade about twenty inches long. It is the arm with which the insurgents met the rifles of the Spanish regulars, and now serves as an ax or knife, or, in fact, anything to which a cutting instrument can be applied. Strange to say, the weapon is an imported one, those most prized being made in Connecticut, and by "St. Collins." The name of the Yankee manufacturer stands high in the calendar of ghostly worthies in the mind of the quajiro.

A NATIVE BALL.

The mayor of the town showed good taste in giving General Grant an unusual treat, instead of something in the ordinary way. He divined rightly that a ball in the true style of the rustic, a hundred miles from the metropolis, would be interesting. He accordingly sent out invitations to the Cuban planters of the district to a "baile" in honor of his distinguished guest. At 8.30 o'clock the visitors repaired to the scene of festivities. The ballroom was a large apartment on the ground floor. The creole belles sat in chairs in a row along one side, and the cavaliers were similarly arranged on the opposite side of the house. The band was composed of three negroes as black as midnight. The instruments were a guitar, a mandolin and the guira. The last-named was a long gourd, hollowed out and very dry. Upon the convex side were cut a

succession of parallel grooves close together, across the vegetable, leaving between them a rough surface, on which the musician scraped another piece of gourd shell, making a sharp, rasping accompaniment to the stringed instruments. The principal dance was much like the first movement of an Irish jig, and went on indefinitely without much change, the parties who were dancing together keeping up a perpetual shuffle back and forth, toward and away, from each other, till they or the musicians grew tired of it, and then a quick kind of waltz took its place. The attire of these olive-skinned damsels was in nowise remarkable, consisting of a white or figured linen dress, trimmed with pink or blue ribbons, but that of the guajiro (pronounced wa-hero), as the rustic is called in Cuba, was decidedly so. All wore palm-leaf hats with broad rims, which were never removed from the head except when raised for an instant as a partner was asked for the dance. The upper garment looked like a shirt of white or figured cotton or linen. In fact, it was a shirt, as known and worn universally in civilized society, except that instead of disappearing at the belt, its lower extremity extended down, floating and fluttering half way to the knees. The trousers were gray linen. A bright-colored cotton handkerchief was folded and passed over the right shoulder, the ends being brought together and tied closely under the left arm. At the side hung the **machete**, which was held by both hands behind the

back when in the way of the dancer. The heel of the caballero was armed with a long spur, to complete the outfit. General Grant and his fellow-travelers looked on for about an hour and repaired to the hotel, but the "baile" lasted till morning.

THE VUELTA ABAJO.

Two days later I wrote: From San Diego Los Banos to Consolacion Del Sur it is perhaps twenty miles. The latter place is one of the towns of the province of Pinar del Rio, which comprises all that part of the island west of Havana. The same territory is also called Vuelta Abajo, or the lower country, but the term has no political signification, and is an old name for the region that antedates the division into the six provinces accomplished after the peace of Martinez Campos. It is the sandy soil of this province that produces the tobacco for which Cuba has become celebrated.

General Grant and party left San Diego yesterday morning at an early hour for this place. The volantes were again called into requisition, together with a coach, expected to carry all that were left over after the other vehicles were filled. This coach was the Jonah of the expedition, and began at the very outset to go amiss. Four of the poor little horses of the

country were hitched to it, and two drivers put up to urge them. There was such a constant lashing and hallooing that the passengers offered to walk up the hills, being willing to do anything but help carry that lumbering machine. But it made no difference; it was all the same whether the box was full or empty. These Cubans are cruel to their stock, feeding them badly and driving them unmercifully. All the fine horses of the island, by the way, come from the States, the natives never thinking of the possibility of improving their domestic animals.

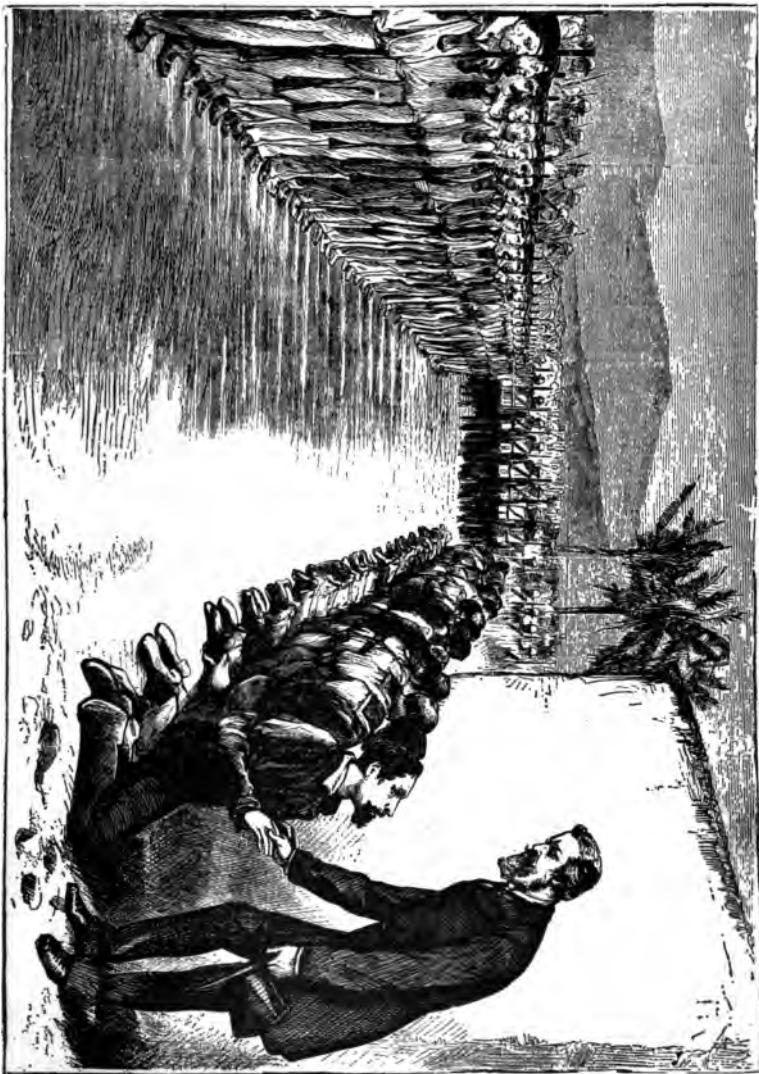
The first few miles of the road led over a country rough and hilly, covered with dense chaparral. This spur of the mountain range crossed, the great tobacco plain was reached. This plateau extends from the vicinity of Paso Real, along the south side of the mountains, to the western extremity of the island, sloping gently to the Caribbean sea. In width, it varies considerably, but will average, perhaps, eighteen miles. The surface is broken by small streams that flow at short intervals from the hills to the coast. There is little or no undergrowth of small trees, but the different varieties of palms are found in abundance, interspersed with, here and there, a grove of pines, which give their name to the province. The red soil of the sugar country is scarcely seen, and in its place is found an ash-colored or light-yellow sandy loam.

THE GORGEOUS GOVERNOR.

At a little village on the plain, called Herradura (The Horseshoe), the governor of the province, General Francisco Alcosta y Alvear, with 100 cavalry, met General Grant and welcomed him to his domain. The governor was dressed in grand style. His portly form was encased in a short coat that fit so snugly that the buttons would no doubt have succumbed had not a broad patent leather belt helped them to stand the pressure. On his breast was a magnificent gold cross, awarded for some knightly deed, and on his head a shining oilcloth cap with a gaudy tassel. His short limbs were clad in scarlet trousers, with Napoleon boots, armed at each heel with a silver spur. Such was the governor, monarch of all he surveyed—as long as it pleased the whim of the representative of the crown who ruled the destinies of this ill-fated colony. The Spanish regulars rode with white horses of the diminutive breed that are native to Cuba, and the volunteers similar steeds, but of various colors. After the introduction, the party were scarcely under way again when the unlucky coach lost a wheel. It was no use to try to repair it. The occupants had no alternative but to mount cavalry horses and ride with the dragoons. Among the number put to the test were Beguria of the Triunpho, Yen Ada (General Grant's

Japanese valet) and the correspondent. When the riders dismounted to give way to the new recruits, there seemed but little room for a man on those horses, loaded down already from shoulder to crupper with the accoutrements of a soldier. There was an immense roll of something before and behind the saddle, done up in white linen, a carbine being on one side and heavy holsters on the other, interspersed with a grand assortment of straps, halters, lariats and other articles necessary to camp life. Added to the inconvenience, there was the oppressive heat and the clouds of dust that rose under the flying hoofs of the animals. The attempt to repair the coach, and the frequent stops at the fondas, or groceries, along the road, had thrown the rear of the cavalcade back several miles; but it was necessary to form one party for an impressive entry into Consolacion, so the orderly who commanded the troop, taking the correspondent by his side, set out at a swift gallop. In Japan probably there is little of this kind of traveling. At any rate, Yen Ada did not seem to have had much experience. He was plucky though and kept his place, flying. A country boy never enjoyed his first visit to a circus more than did those Spaniards the spectacle. The Jap did not seem to relish it so well, and evidently was in great apprehension of falling to pieces. He has not moved about with his usual agility since.

THE BUTCHERY OF THE CREW OF THE "VIRGINIUS"—SCENE AT THE SLAUGHTER-HOUSE
THE MOMENT BEFORE THE EXECUTION—CAPTAIN TRY BIDDING
HIS COMPANIONS FAREWELL.



CONSOLACION DEL SUR.

At 2 o'clock the town was reached, and the party halted at the residence of Senor Ramon Hernandez y Padron, who, with his brother-in-law, Jose Perez, lives in a low, castle-like establishment, consisting of adjoining houses, around which runs a broad veranda. The family is immensely wealthy, owning estates for miles around, which are leased. They are what would be termed shrewd in New England, having sold out their slaves for about half a million when the first agitation for emancipation began. They still keep about sixty, however, and the house was full of them, all neatly dressed and apparently very bright and contented.

Dinner was served in regal style, while a band, whose instruments were chiefly flutes and kettle-drums, played in the shade across the way. In honor of the United States, they attempted "Yankee Doodle," and the rendition of it was so indescribably funny that the travelers could scarcely preserve a due decorum while listening to it. They did better when they attended strictly to the "Coenye," the Cuban national air, and other tunes more in the ordinary line of their experience.

A TOBACCO PLANTATION.

As General Grant had made arrangements to return

today to Paso Real and to stop at the sugar plantation of Mr. Barbou, near Alquizar, it was necessary to visit the tobacco plantations that afternoon. Accordingly, at 4.30 o'clock, the party was en route once more for the Majagua, on the Rio Hondo, the place where the most celebrated of all the Cuban tobacco is grown. The broken coach had not yet come up, so the horses had to be mounted again by a portion of the company. It was sunset when the place was reached, after passing through five miles of tobacco fields. The residence is of the low, two-story style, the walls of which are extended back to enclose a large area in the rear. In front of the house, at some distance, is a broad, smooth quadrangle, on two sides of which are tobacco-houses, and on the third the quarters of the slaves. The superintendent conducted the party across the fields to the banks of the Rio Hondo—the deep river—that runs through the plantation. Palm trees grow at short intervals to shade the ground from the too fervid rays of the sun.

The growing of tobacco here differs from the process in the States in but one essential particular. The plant is set out the same, except that instead of cutting but once, new shoots come up from the stump and mature a second or third time. The drying and packing is also the same as in the North, save that instead of being put in wooden cases, it is packed in 100 or 120-pound bales, done up in the spathe of the palm leaves.

A GLIMPSE OF SLAVERY.

For the third time that day the travelers were seated at the table and required to partake of the spicy viands peculiar to a Cuban dinner. After vainly struggling with the sixth kind of meat, cooked with garlic and red pepper, the hospitable entertainer requested that his guests should not hurry, as there was still a great deal more in the kitchen. The table was spread on the veranda, and the scene was lighted by torches made of bundles of pine slivers bound together with withes, held by slaves. Mention was made of these people, and the superintendent had them called from their quarters for exhibition. First came the men and ranged themselves silently in double file in front of the porch. They were of the lowest type of the negro race, very black, with faces as blank as the countenances of brutes. There was that resigned look in their eyes that is noticed in the hopeless convicts in our penitentiaries. Ages of servitude had done its work. The intelligence even of their rude ancestors had been worked out by the succession of one generation after another, whose only lot was to live and do the bidding of a master. These spiritless men were sent away, and the women were brought up in their places. Such a woe-begone company was never seen before by any of the party, and each of the spectators could but wish never to look upon such a sight again.

They were mostly of small stature, scarcely clad, and without the first ray of intelligence visible in their faces. The children were next brought out for inspection. Sad little waifs they were, thoughtless and hopeless—a spectacle for a humanitarian to reflect upon for a lifetime. The governor took one little fellow playfully by the ear, and said: "You are the bad boy that rides the sheep, are you?" "No, sir," he replied; "I stay with the pigs," and he looked as though he spoke the truth. All the slaves were then called around, and the governor made them a brief address. He said he knew they must be happy. They were here living as well as any people in the world, and he was confident they must be contented with their situation.

There are on this plantation 130 of these creatures, who perform the labor in the cultivation of 500 acres of tobacco, with the assistance of forty hands who are free. The region ordinarily produces 6000 pounds to the acre, and is owned by Miguel Jane, whose factory is in Havana.

As the moon would not rise till late, it was decided to start back by starlight. The way to the crossing of the river was illuminated by a party of slaves, carrying torches, accompanied by an overseer, at whose heels trotted one of those terrible bloodhounds, used to follow the footsteps of human prey. It is the fear of these fierce dogs that is the strongest link in the chains of the degraded blacks. If one attempted to escape it

would be but a question of a few hours when these relentless brutes would be upon him, and their fangs would be tearing his flesh. They are as tireless as the wind, and as unerring as the needle that holds ever to its guiding star. The little group of men at the high bank of the river, the flickering lights, and the silent terror that slunk back in the shadows, formed a weird and sinister picture, but it was soon forgotten when the spot was passed, and the last murmur of the water, mingled with the low hum of voices, melted away in the distance, and the magnificent scenery of the tropic heavens engaged the attention of the travelers.

A TROPIC NIGHT.

In the clear warm air of this latitude the stars blaze out as never in the Northern heavens. In the South new constellations hang their beacons, and burn and glitter in dazzling silence that seems almost out of place. It would not be so strange if the roar of these flaming lights should break upon the ear, but it does not, and in their glow they hold themselves away up out of reach, where sound is lost in space incalculable. Before Consolacion was reached, the moon crept gradually up from the edge of the plain and shed its brightness over the shadowy land, where the rays from the stars had but half softened the darkness into twilight.

It was 11 o'clock when the travelers drew up once more at Consolacion del Sur, quite ready to rest after the long journey of the day.

I took occasion to ask a Cuban-American some questions yesterday about the condition of the blacks. "Do these people have any idea of the domestic life of the enlightened portion of mankind?" I inquired.

"No," he said, "very little. They rarely marry, but live together promiscuously like animals. In fact, sir, the lower classes of Cubans hardly ever get married. The church asks \$300, or about that, for the performance of the rite, and it is a luxury they cannot afford. Consequently marriage becomes merely a matter of mutual consent, but it is generally observed with great constancy."

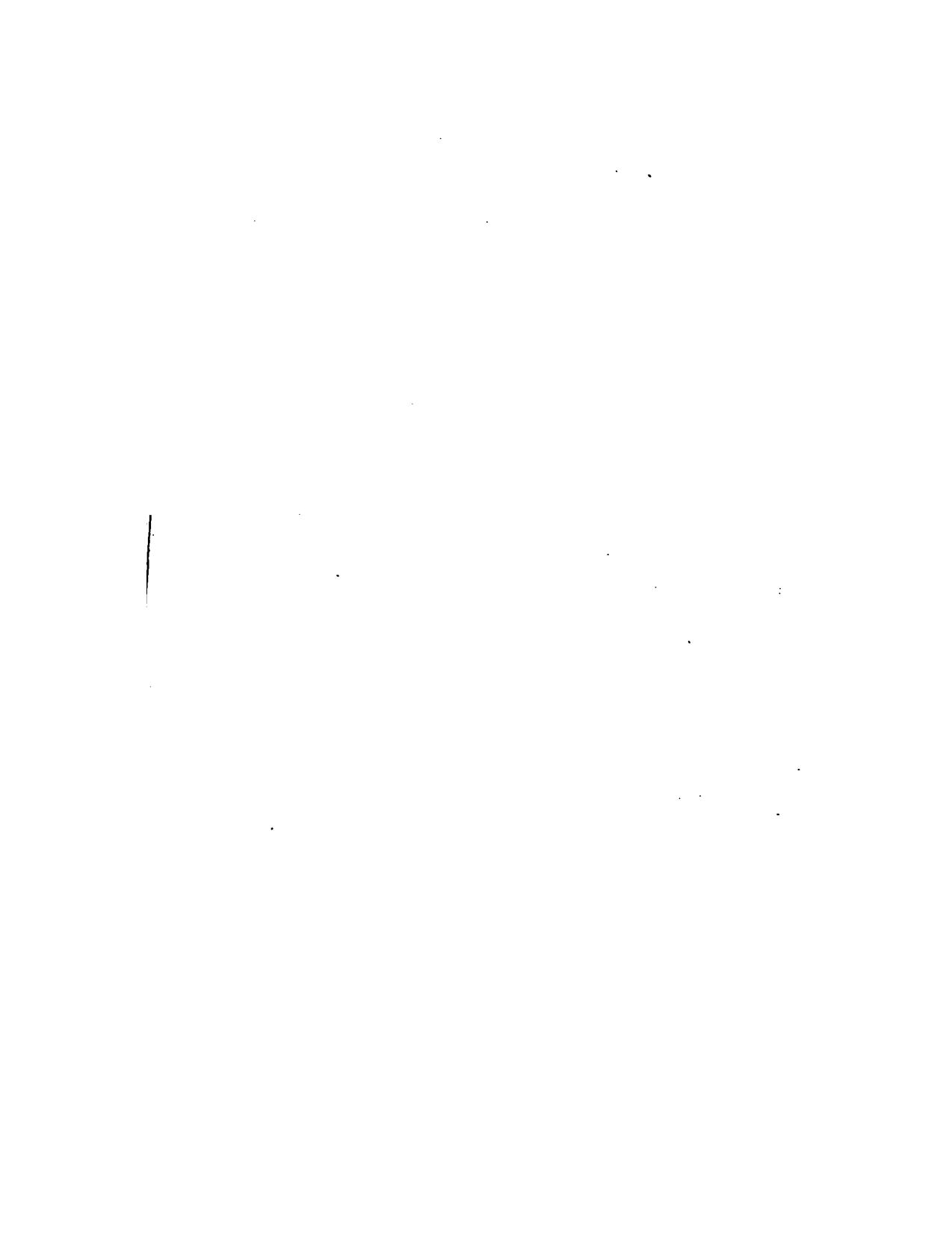
"Are the children of such alliances regarded as legitimate?" I asked.

"No," he responded, "not in law, although they have certain rights not conceded to those born without the pale of even this contract."

Such a condition of things under the rule of a church that is absolute, almost, even in temporal affairs, whose mission is such that it puts a premium upon vice and lawlessness instead of spreading its protecting mantle over marital virtue, needs no comment.



ATTACK UPON A FORT NEAR VUELTAS.



CHAPTER XI.

MURAT HALSTEAD ON THE CUBAN CRISIS.

Friends whose good opinion I very much value continue to write expressing dissent from conclusion as to Cuba stated in my report to the Journal on the situation of the people and the possibilities of the war-wasted island, which is by nature one of the choicest possessions in the world, and I give to the public a letter just received from one with whom I have often sympathized in conflicts over the great questions that involved the rights of man and the welfare of the republic:

“Indianapolis, Ind., March 13, 1896.

“My Dear Mr. Halstead: The Indianapolis News of yesterday republishes your letter in the New York Journal on Cuban annexation. I regard your position on that question untenable. For my part, I can see no good reason for our having Cuba. That island as an independent nation, and its people, our friends as well as neighbors, would certainly be of far more value to us than to have it as one of our States. I think we have now about all the territory we can conveniently manage. You remember that Rome’s large area of

territory had to do with her downfall about as much as anything else. With Cuba as an independent nation, and also a tributary one to our trade and commerce, and with reciprocity, she would lend us a mighty helping hand. Hence, it would be in her own independence as a nation, and not as one of the stars in our own national galaxy of States, that we would, if at all, be the real gainers. You say that 'Cuba is a mortgaged plantation,' etc., and if so, why should we want to have it? Her mortgagee is Spain, and are we to assume her debt, or to repudiate it? To do either would not seem to be a very good national policy on our part if, as you say, 'Cuba is a farm that Spain has borrowed money on,' etc. Could we also repudiate that debt still? It seems to me that your whole line of argument in favor of Cuban annexation is bad. Had we not, after all, better let Cuba alone, and attend a little more closely to something nearer home?

"My old friend, I have, as you know, in years gone by, sat at your feet as one did once at those of Gamaliel, and learned wisdom, but now on this question of Cuban annexation I must seek another instructor. Hoping you are enjoying good health, I remain, as ever, your friend,

"W. H. LANCASTER."

In the report to the New York Journal reproduced by the Indianapolis News, and largely quoted and much commented on, as I am glad to hear, it was my

endeavor to deal with those concerned "with malice toward none and charity to all"—that is, in a spirit of justice to all.

I am not sure of the better way of adjusting the debts Spain made in conquering the island and charged to it, but if we paid off the mortgage and imparted the element of freedom, our return in riches would be ample. The history of Rome troubled me only when I was a youth, and the annexation of Cuba would help us to take care of what we have got.

The four centuries' history of the island, the most ancient civilization in the American world, and the people as they are now, have interested me intensely, and have been studied with sincerity.

I find that the people of Cuba have grievances that make imperative their resistance to the continuance of the distinction of being the last of the Spanish colonies of America—and I say this with no hostility toward Spain. She is better off, as she is ruled, because she has lost the rest of her wonderful American find, including the whole continental coast of the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific coast from California to Patagonia, and the islands that have been separated from her sovereignty, and they have been gainers by declaring and making good their independence. The teaching of this history of Spanish dominion and disunion is true, and the logic of it in the case of Cuba is clear, binding and as irresistible as it is unmistakable. Spain

and Cuba should be free from each other. Each could have peace and prosperity—be infinitely better off—if the association that has become unfortunate to both could be dissevered at once and forever. They are interlocked in the deadly embrace of fatal war, and if there could be a friendly abandonment of this fatality each would be happier and more prosperous than for a century.

The policy of the United States should, in my judgment, in the most serious and decorous way consistent with the urgency of earnestness, be directed to secure this severance.

General Weyler, in my opinion, is a very able man, and there is no doubt he has shown severe firmness and striking capacity in the proceedings of his first month as captain-general and governor-general of Cuba. I hope not to incur the ill-will of the patriots of Cuba, but I am bound in candor to say they generally believe a good many things of this man that in my estimation of the evidence are incredible and impossible. Whether General Weyler is a great military man remains to be seen. He was certainly a dashing and dangerous officer, and returned to Cuba as the master of the Spanish forces with a reputation for ferocity that amounted to fame for savagery. The ultra-Spanish faction thought Campos too gentle to be efficient. The failure of Weyler will not be charged to that, and will be far more significant—indeed, revolutionary.

I say the failure of Weyler, because he has already failed in a promise that he was pleased to make. It has been denied, but he personally told me substantially the same. It was that March 15 (mark the date) he would be positively able to report great results—decisive results. Now, these were:

1. He would force the insurgents by constant pressure and incessantly seeking combats, out of the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana and Matanzas—the western half of the island—that had been sorely ravaged within the last three months, but was unscathed throughout the ten years' war of 1868 and 1878. The captain-general was good enough to point out the place where he "had them" and where they must go as he "oriented them," that is, drove them eastward!

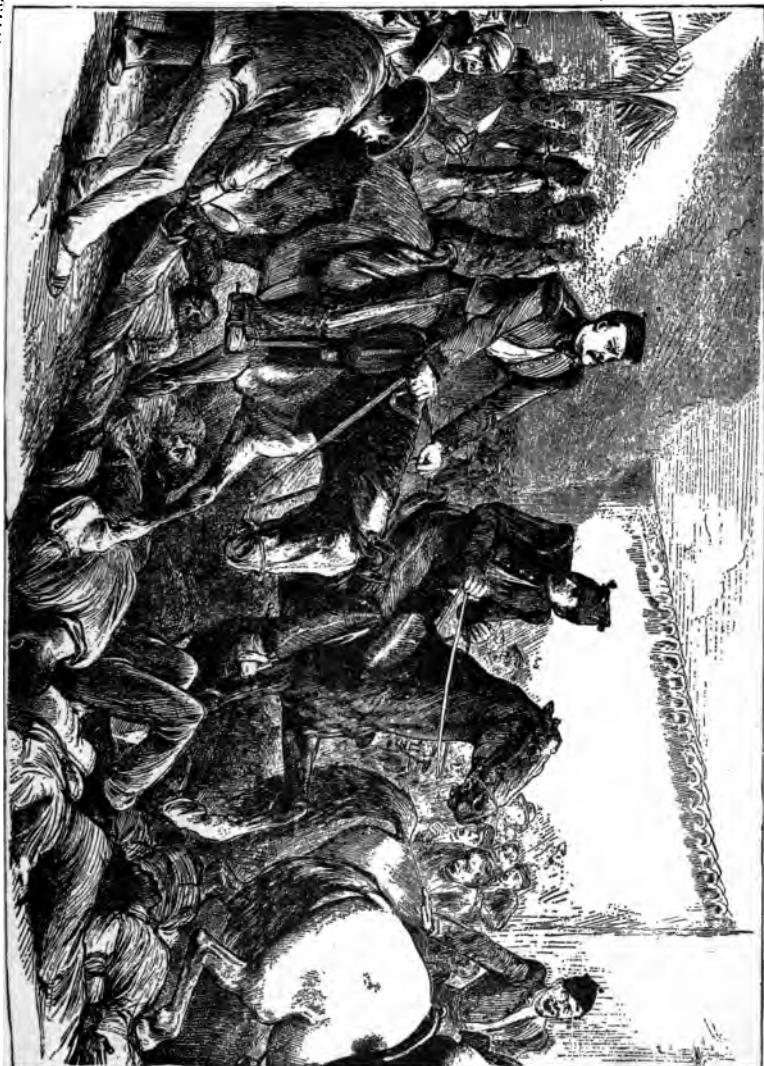
2. This concentration and energetic use of the Spanish forces—of which General Weyler has said frequently he had enough to go anywhere and do anything—was to be, in his opinion, so far efficacious by the middle of March that cane could be ground everywhere in the island west of Matanzas—that is, the centre—and it is precisely this portion of the country that contains the richest sugar plantations. There is no mistaking the issues of time and the fact in this understanding, or of avoiding the test that the captain-general has set up for himself. We have the answer already. He has failed to save the portion of the sugar crop that the torch has spared; and it does not

matter chiefly what the tax on sugar farms and on the sugar exported is, or whether the resources of Spanish revenue will be destroyed or not. There is a deeper, graver question than that—and it is whether the sugar business is perishing. Whether under existing conditions it has not passed away!

Right alongside that is the tobacco question—and it should be remembered that in the strange politics of Cuba, sugar is held to be the friend of Spain and tobacco the helper of Cuba. Well, the tobacco crop is very largely lost. The finest tobacco-fields on the earth are in the west end of Cuba and the most celebrated west of Havana, and they have been devastated, trampled by the insurgent cavalry and the Spanish columns, and deserted by laborers and ruinously neglected. It has been the misguided policy of the rulers of Cuba to make the production of sugar and tobacco almost monopolize the industries of the island. Instead of a protective system, or even a friendly regard for manufactories, the Cubans have been forced to accept the articles manufactured in Spain. When sugar and tobacco fail at once, therefore, it means a degree of destruction of personal interests inconceivable in the affairs of this country.

It was with this sweeping disaster plainly ahead—already, indeed, bitterly experienced—that the deputations representing the sugar interests crowded around General Weyler and implored and insisted that there

THE "VIRGINIUS" BUTCHERY IN 1873—SPANISH HORSEMEN TRAMPLING THE DEAD AND DYING VICTIMS INTO THE SLAUGHTER-HOUSE TRENCH AT SANTIAGO-DE-CUBA.



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should be a time fixed when, if ever, the cane-grinders could be protected, and he committed himself to March 15, about as late a day as he could venture to name. He is unable to keep his word, and this is not the Key West and Tampa news so furiously discredited by Spain. It is the bottom fact of the military and economic conditions of Cuba. Doubtless Spain could, as Spaniards say, endure the decline of revenue from sugar and tobacco, and it is true, as the Spanish Minister says, that of the \$26,000,000 annual revenue from Cuba, \$18,000,000 is from customs; but the loss of the nearly \$100,000,000 a year, market value, of sugar and tobacco crops is not merely a vacuum in the public treasury of the amount of the taxes, it is the obliteration of the capital active in the industries of the island and the abolition of business itself, and that is the point to which all material tendencies in Cuba drift irrecoverably.

Now, they may talk of the sympathies or otherwise of the United States—of the granting or refusal of belligerent rights by the great republic with or without knowledge of a seat of independent government in the island—of the debates in our Congress, and the eccentric threats of the Spaniards that they will go to “war with the Yankees” and “lay New York in ashes,” as some bellicose asses have threatened—probably when well dosed with rum—but the crisis which is to be decisive in Cuba will be the business collapse—and I

fancy that may be precipitated by the failure of General Weyler to keep his engagement with the sugar makers and cannot be indefinitely delayed.

There is no other prospect, and I do not care what the Havana or the Tampa, the Madrid or Washington news is, for any other termination of the war than that of a general catastrophe. General Weyler cannot occupy the whole island. If 50,000 more soldiers were sent—as may be done by calling out the Spanish reserves—still he could not conquer the people on 40,000 square miles. The natives of the island who are for the Spanish cause, unless they are surrounded by the armies of Spain, are scarce and not important. The Spaniards who believe that in the country the people would rise up for Spain if the raiding rebels were driven away are deluded. Spain has no real friends in Cuba but her soldiers, and not all of them can be counted on under all circumstances.

The insurgents cannot stand in battle array before the massed columns of Spain, and the military genius of Gomez is shown in his consummate campaigns of evasion. He is in his seventy-third year, and if he comes out of this war, as he has conducted it against extraordinary odds, or is killed today, his march of 600 miles through the length of Cuba, beset by vastly superior forces, and his successful evasion of them and the accomplishment of his purposes as a destroyer, will be famous for all time merely as a military operation;

but he cannot hold any important place in the mountains or by the sea permanently, or drive the Spaniards from the soil on which they may have spread their encampments, though he can use the rest of the domain for war purposes.

This is to say, the war goes on, and the business depression will culminate in a comprehensive crash. The 50,000 volunteers of the island—the rolls show 63,000 men, but 50,000 is about the number of effectives—represent the escape of Spanish conscripts through the Cuban militia service and the acceptance, at rates far below those that would prevail in a free country, of the business situations in Cuban cities—business and situations—that the war is causing to disappear in the general wreck. These men keep their guns in their houses and represent the drilled and armed physical force in the towns, as the organized and equipped insurgents do in the country. The volunteers have more than once deposed captains-general and may do so again. They hold the balance of power, and some day must assert themselves.

The Spaniards and Cubans entangled in war are in the rapids, helplessly under way to shoot their Niagara, and all the Americans and Europeans on the shores of the two worlds cannot stop them. When the crash comes below the cataract we shall expect the volunteers to take such action as may seem to them to be most consistent with their instincts of self-preservation.

tion, and this must be in the direction of the autonomy of Cuba—the liberation of the people thereof—and the only refuge, it seems to me, is ultimately in the United States, the only possible condition being that of self-government as one of our States—and I believe the Cubans competent to do their duty as American citizens—that the white race will, of course, continue to be the predominant factor of the population, and that the intelligence, courage and general capacity of the black people—those who are of the color of my friend, Mr. Lancaster, of Indianapolis—will maintain the position which they have rapidly attained since their emancipation, and that they will be a credit and example to their race and an object-lesson of profound interest and value to us, and that the splendor of Cuba as a State would speedily lead all opponents captive.

CHAPTER XII.

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

Bilboa, Spain, March 9.

There was another anti-American riot here today, and it was of greater importance than the previous so-called patriotic disturbance caused by the action of the Congress of the United States in regard to Cuba. About 12,000 people took part this afternoon in the popular demonstration.

The excitement was started by a group of young men at a street corner, who began cheering every soldier who passed by. Their conduct was soon imitated by other groups of people, until every soldier seen was cheered by the crowds, and some musicians who refused to repeat the national anthem were hustled, beaten and otherwise maltreated.

The excitement increased, and riotous groups formed in the main streets, cheering for Spain and denouncing the United States. The authorities did everything possible to maintain order. Almost the entire police force was turned out as soon as the populace assumed a threatening aspect, and the rioters were dispersed again and again. Eventually, however, the

mob became so numerous and excited that the police were almost helpless.

After the first demonstration of sympathy with the army, the crowds had armed themselves with sticks and cudgels, and their numbers were so great that the police were swept aside and an immense crowd gathered on the leading thoroughfare and marched toward the residence of the United States consul, shouting, "Long live Spain!" "Down with the Yankees!"

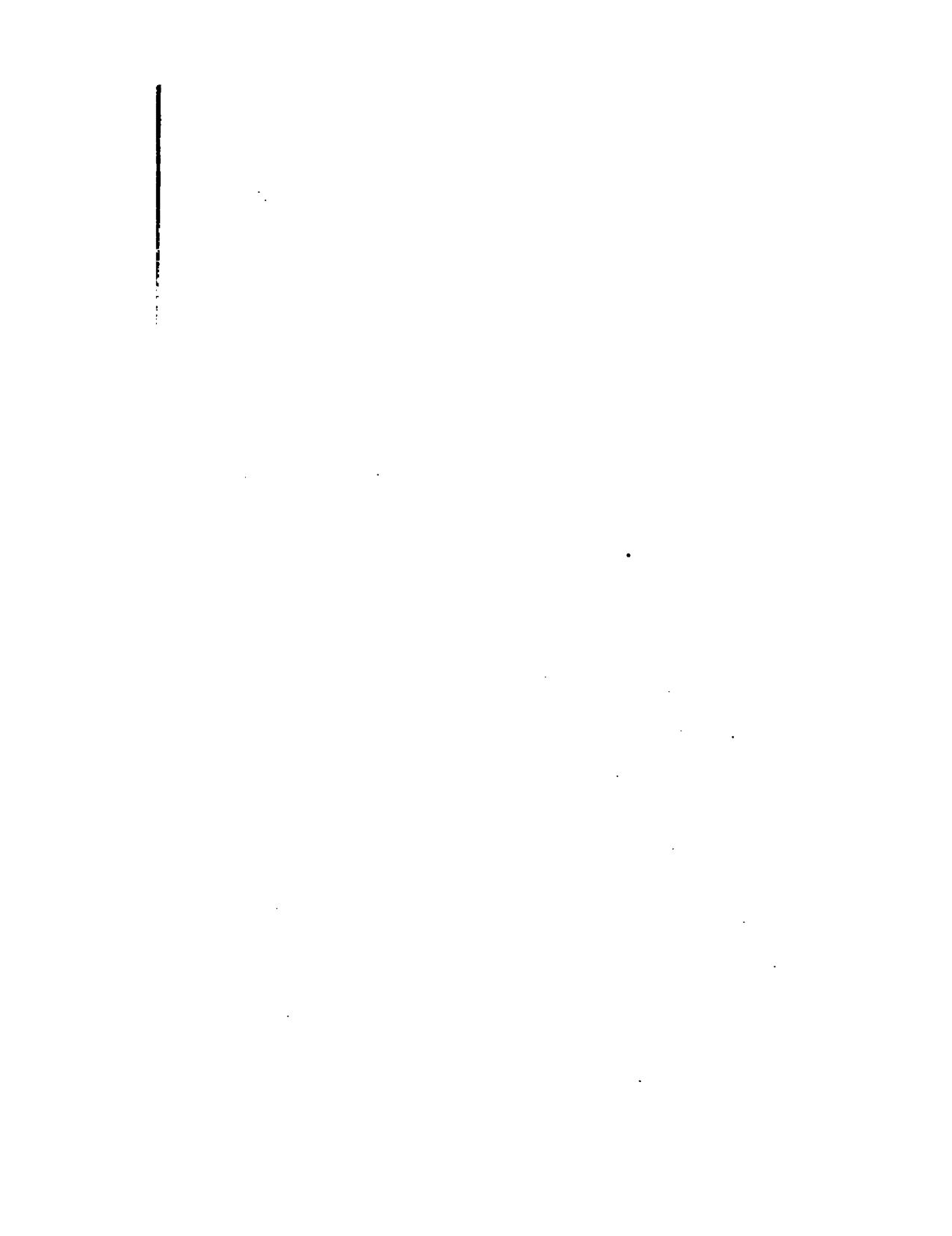
U. S. CONSUL'S RESIDENCE STONED.

On their way to the consul's residence, they hurled stones through the windows of stores and private residences, overturned a number of vehicles, pulled several mounted policemen from their horses and generally behaved in the most threatening manner. Stores dealing in American goods received the most attention from the mob, and the windows of the consul's house were badly shattered, although the police defended the building.

The mob then proceeded in the direction of the United States consulate, evidently intending to stone that building as well. But the authorities had taken the precaution to send a strong force of police to guard that building, and another detachment of police was stationed across the streets leading to the consulate.



SPANISH SOLDIERS GUARDING A RAILROAD TRAIN.



When the mob neared the consulate, it was confronted by the police with drawn swords. The mob halted, and then began pelting the police most vigorously with stones and pieces of brick.

THE POLICE FIRED ON.

The policemen, however, held their ground, and a squad of officers charged the rioters. The latter began firing pistols at the policemen, two of whom were wounded. This caused the police to charge in a body, and, using their swords with good effect, the rioters were dispersed, yelling and hooting at the authorities and shouting "Down with the Yankees!" and "Long live Spain!"

The police, who made a number of arrests, experienced considerable difficulty in escorting their prisoners to the depots.

During the whole afternoon there was more or less disorder. It was decided to keep both the police proper and the gendarmes confined to barracks until further orders, as there seemed to be danger of another outbreak.

The United States consulate is now guarded by a strong detachment of gendarmes, armed with carbines, revolvers and swords, and they have instructions to protect the consulate at any cost.

MARTIAL LAW IN VALENCIA.

Valencia, March 9.

The action of the mob element in this city became so threatening Sunday that martial law was proclaimed last night. A crowd numbering fully 10,000 persons met outside the bull-ring and attempted to enter that place for the purpose of holding a meeting to express anti-American sentiments. The authorities had issued an order forbidding the holding of such meetings, but no attention was paid to it. The gendarmes at the bull-ring refused to allow the mob to enter, and were told that they were traitors to Spain. Then several persons in the crowd cried, "Long live the Republic!" whereupon the gendarmes charged the mob. The crowd answered with several revolver shots, and one of the gendarmes was seriously wounded in the chest.

FIRE ON THE MOB.

The situation had assumed such a menacing aspect that orders were given to the gendarmes to fire upon the mob. A volley was fired by the gendarmes, and the crowd scurried for shelter. Later, the courage of the crowd returned, and, with augmented numbers, the mob marched through the streets, shouting, "Long live Spain!" "Death to the Yankees!" The police and gendarmes repeatedly opposed the crowd, but their

efforts to restore order were not of the slightest avail. The governor of the province then proclaimed martial law, and any further rioting will be dealt with sternly by the military power.

WEYLER'S NEW PROCLAMATIONS.

Havana, March 9.

Captain-General Weyler has issued circulars declaring:

"I have promulgated an order that the teachers of divinity of the Provinces of Matanzas, Santa Clara, Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba, who, confessedly, have taken part in the movements of the rebels, shall be pardoned on making their submission, surrendering their arms and placing themselves under the surveillance of the lawful authority, provided they have not committed other crimes since the issuance of my last proclamation. The teachers of divinity, who, without arms, shall come in under the same circumstances, will be immediately transferred to the encampments, forces, towns and in general where they may be under the immediate vigilance of the troops, and all the teachers shall be under the control of the commandants in whatever jurisdiction they may be assigned."

A proclamation has also been issued concerning the conduct of the war. It says:

"I make known to our harassed troops and to those who attempt to demoralize them as they pursue eastward rebel parties more numerous than those whom they leave in the provinces of Pinar del Rio and Havana, that the time has arrived to pursue with the greatest activity and rigor the little bands, more of outlaws than insurgents, who have remained in the said provinces, and to adopt whatever measures are necessary for the proper and immediate carrying out of that intention." The proclamation then proceeds to regulate the operations of the troops and direct the formation of volunteer forces.

TREATMENT OF INSURGENTS.

Concerning the treatment of insurgents, the proclamation says: "If, in the case of insurgent parties who have robbed, sacked, burned or committed other outrages during the rebellion, anyone who will give information as to the participation that such persons may have had in them, not only those who may have been in the rebel ranks, but also those who have succored them or who have not remained in their homes, they will be fittingly punished. Rebels who may not be responsible for any other crime, who, within the term of fifteen days, present themselves to the nearest military authority in both provinces, and who will assist in the apprehension of anyone guilty of the fore-

going offenses, will not be molested, but will be placed at my disposal. Those who have presented themselves at any earlier time will be pardoned. Those who may have committed any other crimes or who obstructed any public cargo proceeding to its destination will be judged according to the antecedents, and their case will be withheld for final determination."

KING ALFONSO HANGED IN EFFIGY.

Chicago, March 9.

His Majesty Alfonso, King of Spain, has been hanged in effigy in the vicinity of Madison street and Campbell avenue. The crowd of enthusiastic young persons who performed the job escaped identification. The figure was found suspended from a rope, which was thrown over a telephone wire. The effigy hung fifteen feet in the air, and attracted a crowd of persons, who gazed at the fearful and wonderful piece of construction, and inwardly saw visions of war and guns. Upon that part of the effigy's anatomy which would ordinarily be called the breast was the following inscription: "Alfonso XIII, King of Spain. Sic Semper Tyrannis."

The figure was first discovered by a woman. The effigy seemed so real, hanging in a dark street as it did, that she fainted and had to be carried to a neighboring store.

At the close of a party given last evening by the students of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, one of the boys mounted a chair and tore a big Spanish flag in two. Before the flag was allowed to fall to the floor, it was torn into a number of pieces, so that every person present might have had one as a memento of the occasion had he so desired. The young men worked themselves up to quite a frenzy, and their warlike manifestations were vigorously applauded by the girls, who were interested spectators. The disturbance was finally quelled by some of the older members of the class, and the warlike young men contented themselves with marching up and down the streets, singing various patriotic songs and giving three groans for the flag.

FIERCE CURAN BATTLES.

Havana, February 9.

The fighting in Pinar Province in the last few days has been the most severe since the beginning of the war. The condition to which the Spanish forces in the west are reduced has led Marin to abandon the attempt to force a battle with Gomez, delay his return to Havana, and go to the relief of the beleaguered towns. Maceo's forces include the bands of Miro, Sotomayor, Delgado, Zeyas and Bermudez. The official govern-

SECTION OF SPANISH ARTILLERY.





ment report gives them a strength of 600; it is probably much greater.

The combined forces fought a pitched battle with Luque, at Paso Real, last Monday. The latter reported that the rebels formed in line of battle and charged the Spanish lines with great valor. Luque claimed a complete victory, and asked for the San Fernando Cross, having remained in command, though shot through the leg. After the fight, Luque withdrew his forces to the capital of the province.

The same parties of rebels Wednesday besieged Candelaria, a railroad town near the Havana border. They had apparently recovered from the battle with Luque. The volunteers and a small detachment made a heroic defense of Candelaria for twenty-six hours. Marin, who was about leaving Artemisia for Havana, ordered Canella to the relief of Candelaria and to attack Maceo. He took all the available forces, and proceeded in person to support Canella.

The latter made a remarkable march, reached Candelaria, and found insurgents swarming in the towns in that vicinity. The garrison held out, though many fell. The troops of the Simancia and Zamoria battalions attacked the besiegers, and the fight continued two hours. The insurgents made several machete charges against Spanish troops. The latter used artillery. The losses were heavy on both sides. The troops finally entered Candelaria Thursday night. The

insurgents moved west to San Christobal. Marin's column arrived at Candelaria, and Canella followed Maceo. Another battle is expected.

It is impossible to learn the losses at Candelaria accurately. The government says twenty-six dead insurgents were found on the field of battle, and that nineteen more were afterward discovered. Their own losses are given as five dead and forty-eight wounded. Acting Captain-General Marin returned to Havana today from the field. In an interview with the correspondent of the United Press, he said of the insurgents:

"I have not altered my previous opinion. The insurgents can never be recognized as an organized army, because the first condition of such a body is honor, whereas the insurgents think it no dishonor to flee from an enemy to avoid an encounter. A regular military body would think it a dishonor to attack defenseless soldiers, whereas the insurgents think nothing of it. They do not hesitate to force men into their ranks during their passage through the country, which results in the impressed men becoming targets for the Spanish army. In one word, what the insurgents' organization is is a question."

Gomez was last reported between Artemisia and the western border of Havana Province.

The American correspondent, Mannix, remains, pending the result of the action of the State Depart-

ment at Washington against his summary expulsion.

Luque has gone to Cienfuegos to recover from the effects of the wound received at Paso Real. The government reports Jose Maceo wounded in the leg, in Santiago Province, and also Bermudez killed. Neither report is confirmed.

The exodus of Cubans continues, and arrests of suspects are increasing in number. Twenty townspeople of Punta Padre, Santiago Province, were brought here yesterday.

Cavalrymen arrived from Spain Thursday without horses. There is some difficulty in obtaining mounts. The government recently mounted over 2000 infantrymen. Additional volunteers are being recruited here to do garrison duty in place of those sent to the field.

CUBAN PRISONS.

Two hundred and twelve men are confined in two cells of Morro Castle.

They are political prisoners, or suspects, awaiting trial. Some have been there a week, some a month, some a year.

Two are American citizens, one is a British subject. There is a boy of fourteen years, born in Spain and not long enough in this country to dream of rebelling against the government. There are men bowed in years, young men, merchants, professional men, clerks

and farm laborers, all gathered in and thrown together with little or no evidence of having aided or taken part in the insurrection.

In the Cabanas prison, close by, and in other prisons all over the island, are other unfortunates, 2000, 3000, perhaps 4000 altogether, for no man may know how many people Spain has behind the bars at this time in Cuba. In times of war, foreigners, newspaper correspondents and tourists are supposed to be shut out of Spanish prisons, but relatives and friends are admitted to Morro Castle Sundays and Wednesdays.

VISIT TO MORRO CASTLE.

On one of these days recently a visitor crossed the rowboat ferry from Havana, to the landing between Cabanas and Morro Castle, walked up the pebble-paved approach to the latter, and passed within the old battlements. Spanish soldiers, to the number of 200, lounged around the entrance and courtyard. About half of them were on duty. In the centre of the court, some fifty or sixty visitors were grouped in front of the two principal cells. Guards kept an open space ten feet wide between the visitors and the barred doors and windows of the cells. Bundles of clothing and food were opened and searched by the guards before being passed to the prisoners. Conversation between those behind the bars and those without had to

be carried on in a loud voice. Wives spoke encouragement to husbands, and mothers to sons, and told of efforts being made to obtain a release.

THE CELLS ARE FILTHY.

Each cell is about twenty feet wide and nearly 100 feet deep. They are of stone, arched above, and are more like subterranean tunnels than rooms for human beings. The only openings are at the ends. They are in the lower part of the building, within the outer walls, and have the appearance of being intended for storing supplies. They are damp and filthy, and are said to be infested with vermin. Nothing in the shape of chairs, benches or beds is provided. There are, however, hooks for fifty hammocks in each room. Friends of the prisoners supply the hammocks, but as there are 108 men in one room and 104 in the other, over half the number are compelled to sleep on the stone floor.

Water is furnished twice a day in square cans, which once contained kerosene oil. Regular army rations are served. The sanitary arrangements are vile. Many men are taken from the cells to the hospital before the slow-moving authorities see fit to try their cases or admit that they have no case. One of the prisoners is Lopez Colomo, who left Matanzas in the early days of the rebellion. Like Juan Gualberto Go-

mez, who died in Ceuta prison, Colomo presented himself when Captain-General Callija issued his proclamation granting amnesty to all insurgents who surrendered. He has been in prison over a year, and has not been given a trial, and stands a good chance of dying in prison.

A PEACEFUL AMERICAN LOCKED TIGHT.

Another of the prisoners is Ladislao Quintero, an American citizen, one of the peaceful residents of Guatao, who was taken prisoner in his own house, and shot in the arms after being captured. He never took part in the insurrection. His wife filed a statement with the American consul six weeks ago. Another prisoner is Manuel Francisco Aguero. He claims to be an American citizen, and though he was arrested in July, 1895, the American consul said he had never heard of the case until I laid it before him. Aguero is a general agent or manager of traveling circuses, is nearly sixty years old, has only one arm, and there are only three fingers on his remaining hand. He speaks fair English, and says he has visited the United States yearly to obtain features for his circuses, and lived there at one time five years, when he took out citizenship papers. He says that he has taken no part in the present war, and was arrested in Guarra, Havana province, July 7, of last year. He states that his citizen-

A SCENE IN A HOSPITAL IN VADAVAH.





ship papers were left with a Mr. Pelletria, acting vice-consul at Sagua, during the absence of the consul, Mr. Daniel Mullin. He says he cannot get his papers back from Sagua, as Mr. Pelletria and Mr. Mullin are no longer there. Consul-General Williams has agreed to write to Sagua to learn if Aguero is registered there as an American citizen. There is a British subject in Morro, who has been there for about four months, but as he is informed that steps have been taken which have demonstrated his innocence, and will probably result in his release inside of a week, he does not want his name mentioned.

NEARLY ALL ARE WHITE.

Nearly all of the 212 prisoners in Morro are white. One is a smoothed-cheeked Spanish lad of fourteen, who was clerk in a store in a small town in the interior of Havana province. He lost his position, and was walking along the highway to Havana when arrested, and charged with being a rebel.

In the casements of Morro are other political prisoners besides the 212, and in Cabanas, Sanguilly, the only American who has had a trial, is confined. His case has been appealed, as the evidence did not warrant his conviction. Cepero, another American, who has been in the Cabanas prison two months, is now at the Presidios prison, Havana, and will be taken to

Santa Clara for trial. The two Someillans, father and son, have been released after about six weeks in prison, there being no evidence against them. They were American citizens, and are well known in the tobacco trade.

Walter Grant Dygert, the American in Guines jail, about whom the Senate has questioned the State Department, was arrested and identified by the Spanish officials as the rebel leader "el Inglecito"—the Englishman—but as the latter is still fighting at the head of an insurgent column, Dygert is now said to be another Inglecito on his way to join the rebels, and the claim is made that a rifle was found near the spot where he was arrested. Dygert declares he had no arms, and did not intend joining the rebels.

One other American citizen in jail is Rodriguez, who was arrested on board the American steamer Olivette five weeks ago. He is at Cabanas.

FRANCE GIVES A PRISONER, TOO.

There is one Frenchman, Honore Laine, in either the Morro or Cabanas prisons. He was arrested at a hotel in Havana two months ago, and has never been given a hearing. Aside from these whom I have named, the political prisoners are Cubans, almost without exception. They are not in any sense prisoners of war. They are peaceable citizens, dragged out of

their homes, away from families dependent upon them for support, and sent to the Morro prison.

If there is any real evidence against them, they are deported to the Spanish penal colony at Cueta, Africa.

Those remaining at Morro prison are men who have not rebelled against Spain, but whom Spain suspects of disloyalty. Were it not for the hope of release that is ever present in their breasts, their fate—that of slow death in Morro Castle—might be considered worse than that of men who have shouldered a gun and fought the soldiers of Spain. Prisoners of war in Cuba are given drumhead courtmartials and promptly shot. Political suspects rot in jail.

PROVINCES IN ASHES.

Some idea of the extent of the ruin in Cuba may be gathered from the following list of towns which have been destroyed in the four western provinces:

IN HAVANA PROVINCE.

Benjucal; Jaruco, Wajay, Melena, de Sur, Bainoa, Lecatalina, Sannicholas, Nueva Paz.

IN PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE.

Cabanas, Cayabajos, Palacios, Paso Real, San Diego de Los Banos, Vinales, San Juan Martinez, Mon-

tezuelo, Los Arroyos, Cuana, Bahia, Honica, San Diego, Nunez, Quiebra, Hacha.

IN MATANZAS PROVINCE.

Macagua, San Jose, Los Ramos, Roque, Torriente.

IN SANTA CLARA.

Amaro, Salamanca, Mata, Flora, Maltiempo, San Juan Los Yeras, Ranchuelo.

Besides these, over twenty-five towns have been half burned. Most of these towns have been burned by the insurgents, for resisting attacks, or because they were being used as depots of supplies for government troops.

In some cases, like that of Cabanas, the troops demolished the town to prevent the insurgents from occupying it. Very little of the destruction has been done wantonly by either side.

When the insurgents, led by Maceo, first entered Pinar Del Rio, every town in the province except the capital city welcomed him with open arms, and no property was injured. Later, the government troops entered the province, and, moving in strong columns, dislodged the insurgents from town to town, establishing their own garrisons there. Thereupon the inhabitants burned their own town, and nearly the entire province is now in ashes.

Spanish troops occupy the city of Pinar del Rio, the towns of Candelaria, Artemisia and the port of Coliza. All the rest of the province is in the hands of the enemy. Recently a Spanish force was sent to establish a base of supplies at Guane. Upon the approach of the column the residents burned their town.

In the general devastation of Pinal del Rio, tobacco warehouses have been burned, and the indications are that this crop will not be permitted to reach the coast. Banana and pineapple crops will also be interfered with. Shipments from the interior to the seacoast towns have been so completely blocked, that at Guines in this province, cows are offered for sale at \$4 each, pigs at \$1, turkeys at forty cents and eggs and milk have no price.

Here, in Havana, these things are worth four times the customary price, and codfish, imported in large quantities for consumption in the interior, is offered for one and one-half cents per pound, but a little more than the duty alone.

Thousands of people are destitute, and were it not for tropical fruits and the tropical climate, starvation would be theirs.

General Weyler's decree, in ordering the confiscation of property in Havana and Pinal del Rio provinces of all who fail to report allegiance to Spain, has produced great indignation. His decrees against plant-

ers and others who contribute funds or aid to the insurgents in any way applies to the case of American owners of estates who have paid money to insurgents for the protection of their property.

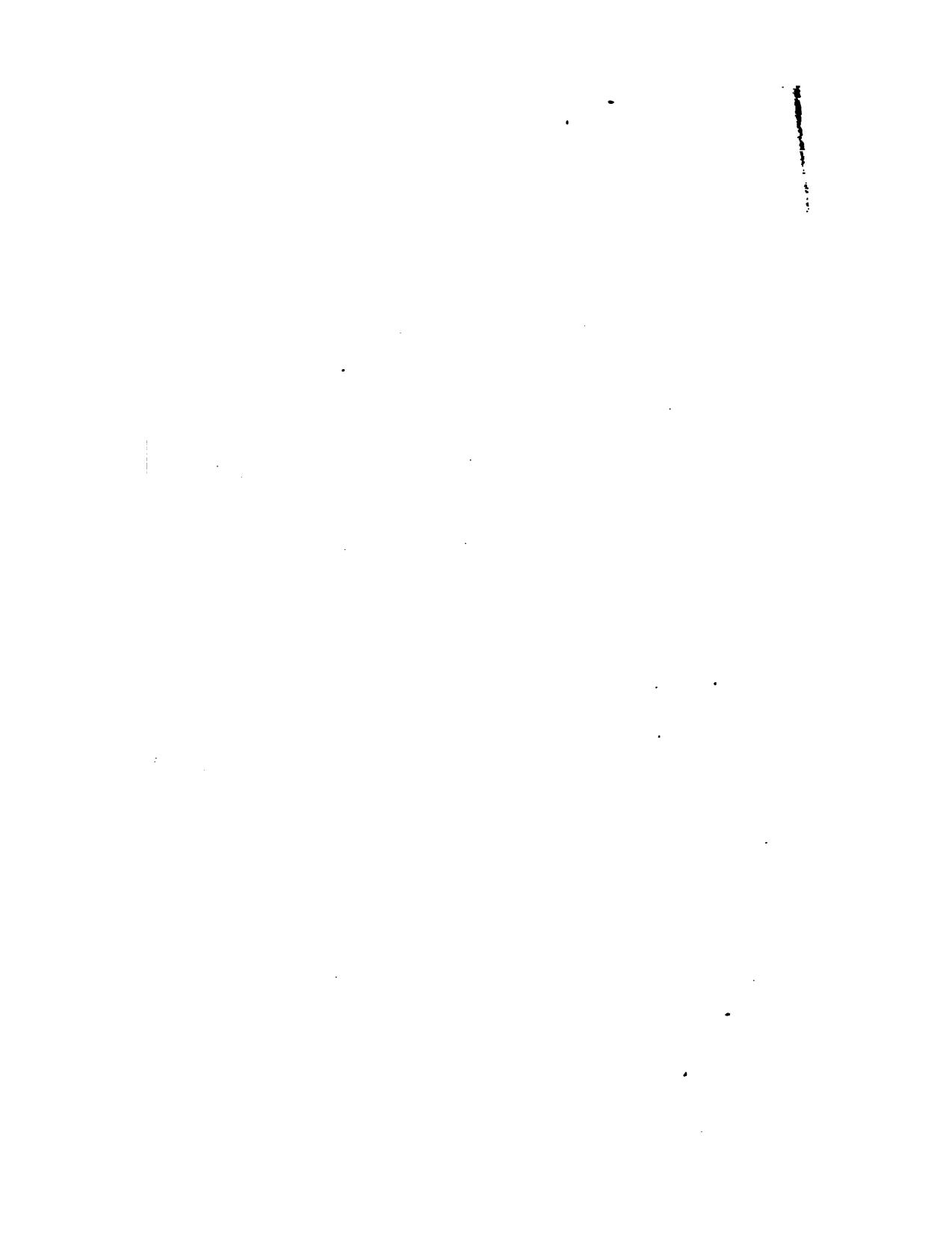
Yesterday, three owners of estates not twenty miles from Havana called upon General Weyler, and asked permission to pay a tax to the insurgents so that they could be permitted to grind and save their crops. Weyler became very angry at once, and told his callers that if they paid a peseta to the rebels he would have them locked up as traitors to Spain.

General Panio, in command of the Second Corps at Santa Clara, has issued a proclamation calling upon every citizen to join the volunteers, and declaring that all who are able to carry arms and do not do so show weakness in their patriotic sentiments. All mayors of towns are directed to prepare lists of all who are indifferent or suspected and send them to him.

At a mass meeting called for the purpose in Santa Clara, General Luque read the decree and called upon all to obey it. He said in his address: "Do not believe that our situation is critical. Every day we chastise the rebels; but there is a nation now that wishes to sympathize with those hordes, and the hour has come when the Spanish should be on one side, and on the other side those who sympathize with Americans."



A CUBAN WATCHING THE MOVEMENT
OF THE SPANISH ARMY.



A TELEGRAM FROM GENERAL MACEO.

In Camp in Cuzco Hills,

Pinar Del Rio Province, Cuba, April 14, 1896.

W. R. Hearst, Journal, New York:

Responding to the request of your correspondent, I have to say that I consider the battle of last Saturday, when my troops put to flight the Alfonso XIII Battalion, the most important accomplishment of the Cuban army during the war, because it taught the men confidence in themselves, and also because it gave the Spanish to understand that they have no contemptible foe to deal with. The rout of that battalion will make cowards of the common Spanish soldiers who may be sent to fight us in the future. Since the battle, my soldiers have been filled with desire to meet the men on the trocha in combat. I can hardly restrain them, and I feel satisfied that if it was my policy to attack the trocha at this time the Spanish army would be cut to pieces.

Nothing that I could say about the kindness of the American papers, especially the Journal, in the cause of Cuban liberty could adequately express the gratitude that fills my heart and the heart of every true Cuban. You have armed the weak and made us strong to go on to victory. Freedom for Cuba was never closer to realization than it is now. Your correspondent informs me that doubts have been cast upon the

victory at Pinar del Rio. Let me assure the Americans that we struck that city a heavy blow, putting the troops to flight, burning many houses, and capturing enough arms to place weapons in the hands of many of my men who had none before.

(Signed) ANTONIO MACEO.

The above dispatch was sent from Havana to Key West for transmission to the Journal, the censorship preventing it from being sent direct from the Cuban capital.

THE SITUATION IN CUBA.*

It was not my intention to write about Cuba when, a few weeks ago, I left New York on a trip to that unfortunate and beautiful island. Had I gone there for that purpose, as a newspaper correspondent, it is certain that I would not have seen what I have been fortunate enough to see. The business which took me to Cuba was important enough to decide the captain-general to give me a "salvo conductor," or passport, allowing me to travel inland, to pass the Spanish lines, and to go to Mercedes de Carrillo, a sugar plantation near Colon, in the heart of the province of Matanzas, where most of the fighting was taking place at the time. Gomez was near there, and Maceo was fighting his way back to Havana from the place at which he had met

*From Leslie's Weekly.

Gomez. I had, indeed, no desire of writing about Cuba, or the conditions of the struggle now in progress, for the reason that I have many warm friends in Spain, in and out of official circles, that I have only the most delightful personal recollections of my sojourn there, and therefore my sympathies were with the Spaniards. I felt that writing in their favor would probably displease all my friends, and I had decided not to write a line. But what I saw and heard has obliged me to change my mind both as to the state of things in Cuba and to my decision of not expressing my opinion. My admiration for Spain has received a serious blow, and I must honestly confess that all my sympathy is now with the Cubans. Spain I can only pity—pity for the hopeless and ruinous fight she is making. Most of the reports sent from Havana are so absolutely false that I feel they must be denied. The world must know and must be told that it is not true that Spain is having the best of it—not true that the Spaniards are eager to fight; not true that the Spanish columns are always victorious and that their losses are insignificant; not true that the best people of Cuba are against the insurgents; not true that cruelties take place no more. The contrary is the truth. It is an absolute fact that nine-tenths of the country is against Spain; that the Spanish soldiers are discouraged, demoralized, and afraid of the Cubans, who still hold the whole country with the exception of the cities, and

who are gaining ground every day. All this I can and will prove in the account of my trip to Cuba, expressly written at the request of Leslie's Weekly.

I do not wonder so many Americans used to go to Cuba before the war broke out. From New York to Havana via Florida it is only a short trip of three days, and a more delightful trip does not exist. Tampa Bay, where the New York express trains meet the steamer, is reached in a day and a half. Thirty-six hours after leaving Tampa, at 6 o'clock in the morning, our steamer, the Olivette, arrived at the entrance of the harbor of Havana. It was a beautiful and clear day, and from the deck of the steamer I had been eagerly watching the small white point in the horizon which, increasing in size every minute, had developed little by little into a great mass of buildings—the city of Havana. On our left, upon a high hill, was the old and imposing Morro Castle, with its big, modern guns, overlooking the sea. The general effect of its Spanish-Moorish architecture reminded me of many a Spanish fortress, and especially of the fortifications of Toledo. A strange feeling came over me as I thought of all the mysteries which are buried behind these thick, dirty walls of great, big stones—when I thought of the hundreds who have been tortured and who have died there, and of the hundreds who, alas! are there now, waiting for their turn to be sent brutally into another world. But, turning from the sadly suggestive

fortress, on the other side of the harbor was Havana, white and picturesque, with its large palaces, buildings and factories, above which many tall palm trees were slowly balancing their heavy heads in a light and warm breeze. Life on one side, I thought, and death on the other!

I had been warned that I would meet with a great many difficulties before landing, and therefore great was my surprise when I found out that everything went as smoothly as possible. After the officials who came on board had ascertained that my passport was en regle, I was allowed to go ashore without the slightest trouble, and I immediately drove to the hotel. Had I not known that there was war in Cuba I certainly would not have guessed it from the appearance of the city. Not a soldier was to be seen in the narrow streets, bordered by Spanish-Moorish houses. Everything was as quiet as possible. It did not take very long to find out the state of things. I had letters of introduction for the most influential men in Havana, Matanzas and Colon, and had no difficulty in ascertaining from them that nine-tenths of the best people of Cuba are in favor of the insurgents. With a very few exceptions, the only persons in favor of Spain are the Spanish themselves. If all the Cubans who sympathize with the insurrectionists should join the rebel forces, Gomez would have an army of 500,000 men. The great majority of the Cubans who would like to

fight are obliged to stay at home, for they have no arms and no ammunition. It is also natural that bankers, large business men, prominent lawyers and railroad men cannot give up their business to go fighting, and can do more by remaining at the head of their business and furnishing the Cuban party with funds than they would by shouldering a musket.

These men are more than careful about expressing their opinion, knowing that any word said against Spain, or in favor of the insurgents, means either death or confinement in Morro Castle, which is perhaps worse. One of the best-known and most distinguished citizens of Havana said to me, one evening: "My sugar estate, worth \$500,000, has just been burned by a force of insurgents. They were commanded by one of my best friends. They did right, and I am glad of it. It is necessary, in order to win from Spain, to cut off from her all sources of revenue. The house in which I am receiving you is worth \$50,000. I have two more in the city, and would gladly see the three of them burned to the ground if it can help the cause. In short, every Cuban in the island would rather be ruined and killed than to see any longer the hated flag of Spain waving over this country." These feelings every Cuban I met expressed in the same way.

General Weyler's proclamation, issued upon his arrival, prohibited any person from passing the Spanish



A CUBAN WINDOW.



lines under penalty of being arrested should it happen in the day-time, or shot without warning at night. Not a single pass has been issued to war correspondents, and everyone will remember the terrible experiences, in Morro Castle, of the correspondent of the New York Journal, who had ventured near the Spanish lines. It will be readily understood from this that all the news sent to the New York press is either the official news given away by the captain-general's government, or reports brought by natives coming from the country.

Shortly after my arrival in Havana, Captain-General Weyler, of whom I shall write later on, kindly gave me a *salvo conductor*, or permit, allowing me to pass the Spanish lines, to travel inland, and to proceed to the plantation Mercedes de Carrillo, situated near Colon. We had then great difficulties in finding a guide willing to accompany me. The Spanish ones absolutely refused for fear of being caught and hanged by the rebels, while the Cubans could not possibly be induced to leave the city, being fearful that they would be shot by the Spaniards. At last, a Mr. Garcia, a Cuban, who has lived in New York for several years, consented "to take his life in his hands," as he put it, and to accompany me.

We left Havana at 6 o'clock in the morning for Matanzas, where we had to change trains. The station was strongly guarded by troops. The train was made up of an engine, two armored cars full of soldiers, a

third, a second and a first-class car. In addition to this, another engine went flying 200 yards ahead of us to see whether the line was clear. To the surprise of all, the train was not fired upon, and we reached Matanzas without much trouble, though we were several hours behind time, having been stopped again and again for some unknown causes. All along the line the stations have been burned to the ground; the cane-fields, as far as the eye could see, had also been burned; the many sugar factories were desolated and silent, and every few yards we could see the iron wheels of the hundreds of cars destroyed by the insurgents—all this in the province of Havana, the stronghold of Spain.

At Matanzas, the following day, I learned that there would be no train that day for Colon, the insurgents having appeared in great force everywhere. I was told by the railroad officials that should they be allowed by the government to run passenger trains, the insurgents would never interfere with those. But the government wishes the trains to be protected by armored cars full of soldiers. These the insurgents will not allow to pass when they can stop them, and it is for this reason that nearly every train is attacked.

I decided while in Matanzas to go out of the city, past the Spanish lines if possible, to the famous Caves of Bellamar, which extend under the sea for miles. The end has never been reached yet, and some people be-

lieve they may go clear across the Atlantic. The entrance to these caves is about three miles from Matanzas, and a mile and a half from the line of Spanish forts which surrounds the city. There we were stopped by the sentries, and in spite of my salvo *conducto* I had some difficulty before being allowed to pass. At the caves the proprietor told me that bands of from twenty-five to 300 insurgents come every night to find shelter in his buildings. "Why?" I exclaimed, "here, a mile from the Spanish forts?" "Yes, *senor*," "And you mean to say," I inquired, "that these Spaniards never come out to fight them?" "No; never."

A short time ago 500 Spaniards went reconnoitring out of Matanzas city. When four miles away they were told that a force of insurgents was ahead. The officers immediately consulted, and—250 men to the left, 250 to the right—they went back to Matanzas! That very night I spent in Matanzas, 1000 men were sent out of the city. On a hill, just above it, near the gates of the city, they were attacked by the insurgents and a large number of these men were killed, though it was never officially reported.

The following morning, at 6 o'clock, a train similar to the one I had taken from Havana was sent out of Matanzas to Colon. Seven times was that train stopped and three times fired upon, until we reached a village occupied by 1200 soldiers and surrounded by forts. There we heard that we could go no further,

for a bridge situated a quarter of a mile from this place had just been burned by the insurgents! Just think of it—only 400 yards from the 1200 Spanish soldiers! At last the bridge was repaired, and after many more stops and more firing we reached Mercedes de Carrillo. Gomez had been there with 4000 men only three days before. When he appeared, the soldiers who were guarding the forts which have been built around the estate disappeared. But two days after Gomez's departure they came back, in hot pursuit of the Cuban leader, and bravely shooting at everything in sight. The day before my arrival (to show that they fear nothing) they shot down, without the slightest reason or provocation, four of the best servants of the household. One of them was the brother of the housekeeper, and, with tears in her eyes, the poor woman told me the story. Shortly afterward, the Spanish lieutenant who had charge of the forces on the estate appeared, half-drunk, and exclaimed: "I hear altogether too much talking concerning the four bla'guards we shot. If you don't stop I shall take a few more and put them against the wall!" Brave soldier!

A. B. DE GUERVILLE.

WALTER GRANT DYGERT.

The New York Journal has taken great interest in the case of Walter Grant Dygert. Mr. Fred. W. Law-

rence, a correspondent for this paper, sends a very interesting letter to the Journal, relating his experience in behalf of Mr. Dygert:

Havana, April 15.

The Journal is a more potent influence with the Spanish authorities in Cuba than the United States government.

As the representative of the paper, I have succeeded in breaking the "incommunicado" rule, a feat never before accomplished by a newspaper man, and something that Ramon Williams, the United States consul-general, has been trying in vain to do for the past several weeks. And the trick is very simple, if you only know how to go about it.

I went down to Guines last Monday, determined to see Walter Grant Dygert, the American who is confined there "incommunicado," if he was alive, and if he was dead to satisfy the public interest on that point.

I begged the alcalde of the town to let me see the prisoner, but he was almost paralyzed at the audacity of anyone presuming to ask for an interview with an "incommunicado" man. Various other awe-inspiring officials looked as though they thought I was a lunatic who ought to be in a straightjacket.

The forlorn hope was the military judge of the town. This gentleman, whose name and title is Capitan De Infanteria Juez Instructor De Guines, Don Aureliano

Riospios De Guzman, I found as he was about to sit down to his breakfast in the restaurant.

LAID SIEGE TO THE CAPITAN'S STOMACH.

In two minutes the breakfast he had ordered was regaling the palate of the house dog, and my interpreter was ordering such a breakfast for three as that hostelry had never served before. We laid siege to the capitán's stomach and won him.

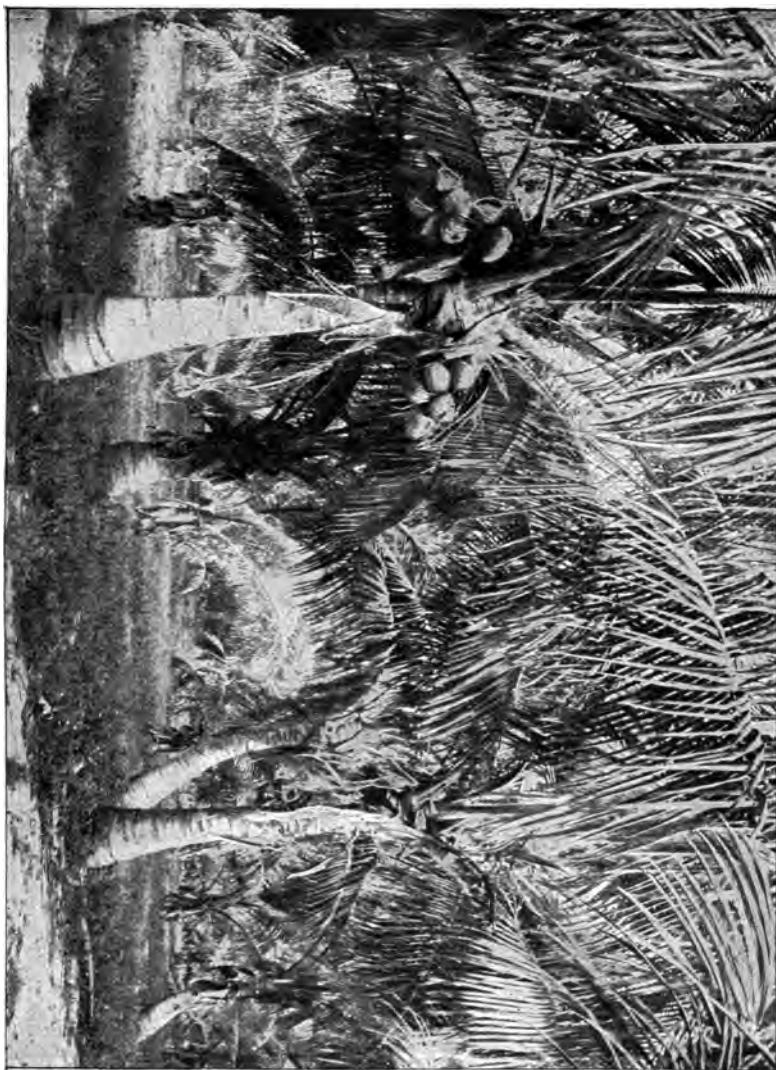
At first, he was enveloped in arctic frigidity, but under the mellow influence of the rare wines that the interpreter scoured the town for, the old chap thawed out, and when the jewel of an interpreter discovered that he was a descendant of one of the capitán's college chums, our guest rose up and embraced us as brothers.

Before that breakfast was finished, the capitán had promised that Dygert should be "communicado" to us, and had sworn himself the firm friend of all Americans until the end of time.

The rest is a simple story. We went to the prison with the capitán, and Dygert was brought into the office, where I talked with him as long as I cared to. Not only that, but our friend allowed us to bring in a photographer to take the prisoner's picture.

At the same time, the note refusing Consul-General William permission to see Dygert was reposing in the consulate cafe.

A COCONUT GROVE.



DYGERT'S DEEP GRATITUDE.

Poor Dygert! His eyes filled with tears when I clasped his hand and spoke kindly to him in his own language. It was the first time in many weeks that he had seen a friendly face. I had to wait until he had gulped down the choking feeling in his throat before engaging him in conversation.

"So," said the prisoner, "you represent the Journal, do you? A newspaper man is the first of my countrymen to come to me. Where is our consul? I wrote to him, and received only a cold reply. Why has he not tried to send somebody to me?"

I told Dygert that the consul was a very busy man, and I hope the Recording Angel will not lay that up against me. Then I asked him how a man incommunicado could send anything, even to the consul of his country. Dygert would not tell me, but the affectionate way he looked at our friend, the capitán, solved the problem to my satisfaction.

"Is there anything being done for me? Do my friends in America know of my imprisonment? In the name of God, tell me how much longer I must remain in this accursed hole!"

I told him of the fight the Journal had made for him; of the efforts of Representative Hopkins and Senator Cullom; of how the State Department had been aroused

from lethargy, and of how even Williams had been spurred to action, though his efforts amounted to nothing.

Again the tears trickled down Dygert's cheeks. He knelt down, closed his eyes and moved his lips prayerfully.

HIS FAITH IN GOD NEVER FAILED.

"You mustn't mind my weakness," he said, when he arose. "I was brought up a Christian, and somehow, even in my darkest hours of despair, when I was ready to believe that man had gone back on me forever, my faith in God never failed. I thought of all the good old minister back in Illinois had told me, and my mother's teaching came to my mind constantly. I thought God was punishing me for some sin I had committed, and I bowed in resignation to His will."

I asked him how Americans were treated in Spanish prisons. Again his eyes rested affectionately on the capitán.

"If it had not been for him," said Dygert, "the torture would have been more than I could bear. That man wears a Spanish uniform, but he has a heart as tender as a woman's. He does everything he can to make the men in here forget they are in prison. But, good as he is to them, he cannot make them forget their misery.

"You don't know what it is to be herded into a cell nine feet long and twelve feet wide, with twenty-four other human beings, who never step outside except to go to their death by the garrote. You may imagine the condition that finally comes to the cell, and what a hell it is to a man of refinement, such as myself.

PRAYED FOR EXECUTION.

"When the guards have come to take prisoners to be executed, I have at times prayed God to let the authorities pronounce sentence of death upon me, so that my turn might come next. That was wicked, I know, but then living under such conditions was so terrible and I fully expected that I was to die before long. I cannot imagine why they spared me, when every day I saw men whom I believe were as innocent as myself going to their death.

"Look at my image in that mirror! I do not recognize myself. See my gray hair; look at these lines on my face, and notice how shrunken my body is. When I came into this prison I looked the robust young man I was. My frame filled these clothes. Now there is room for two Walter Dygerts in this coat. I did not even have anybody to talk with, for nobody here speaks English, and I understand no Spanish.

"I have read the 'Count of Monte Cristo,' and I can realize now, though I never did before, what a truthful

imagination Dumas had to describe so graphically the sufferings of Edmond Dantes.

"Can you tell me now if they are going to let me out?"

I told Dygert that Marquis De Palmerola had promised me that he should be free as soon as the formalities could be arranged.

Again Dygert fell on his knees and prayed.

AN ANGEL OF MERCY.

"You don't know what an angel of mercy you have been to me, my friend," he said.

As I turned to go, Dygert knelt at my feet, and, seizing my hand, covered it with kisses, as the tears streamed down his face. I tried to prevent him doing so, but he was too quick for me. At last, I jerked my hand from his grasp, and hurried out of the prison for fear I should make a fool of myself; but when I saw that old war-horse of a capitan using his handkerchief to wipe perspiration and something else from his face, I felt ashamed no longer.

Today I am sorry I went to the prison, for Dygert has not been released, and I know how bitter the disappointment has been to him, even though I sent him word that the day would not be far distant.

I asked Marquis Palmerola why the government had not kept its word. His reply was that the civil

authorities were satisfied of Dygert's innocence, and so was the military branch, but that there were certain forms that must be observed before the order of release could issue. It was the fault of the Spanish judicial methods, he said, but that even their ways would gain speed under the spurring the authorities had given them.

DYGERT REFUSED TO SIGN.

Dygert had told me of a paper written in Spanish that he had been asked to sign, and refused. I thought it might be a waiver for all claims of indemnity on account of his arrest, and that he was being kept in jail to compel him to sign it. Palmerola told me that my guess was incorrect, but that he himself did not know what the contents of the document were.

I don't think the Marquis is trying to fool me, even though diplomats are not above such tricks, for he has given the consul-general the same assurances he gave me.

If, however, Dygert is not shortly released, I shall cable you to that effect, if the censor will let me send the message, and you must commence the fight with redoubled vigor, for if ever an innocent man was worthy of help, that man is Dygert.

Pressure from the State Department is all that is necessary, but it is a great pity that a vigorous man is

not here to carry out the orders of Mr. Olney, instead of well-meaning, but very easy-going and complacent Mr. Williams.

ALBERTO JOSE DIAZ.

Alberto Jose Diaz, the Baptist missionary now in Morro Castle, Havana, is in a Spanish prison for the third time. He was once an officer among the Cuban revolutionists, directing his men to kill, but lately he led the twenty-odd Baptist missionaries, directing them to save.

Diaz is a man of large physique and magnetic personality. At the Convention of the Southern Baptist Church in Washington in 1895 he was introduced just when the body was about to adjourn. Those present were fatigued from a week's day and night sessions. Diaz arose and spoke of Cuba. The restless audience sat spellbound, though it was 11 o'clock at night. He brought tears to the eyes of many, and when he had finished, a wave of applause swept over the assemblage that sounded like falling walls.

He lectured in New York and Boston on Cuba a few years ago, and carried back \$300 for his missions, to be promptly arrested as a suspect.

OF A PRODIGIOUS FAMILY.

Diaz is the eldest of twenty-odd children, and first

INSURGENT'S CAVE.





saw the light near Havana forty-four years ago. His father was an apothecary, and Diaz graduated from the University of Havana, then studied medicine, and became a practicing physician in Havana. He has said his father paid \$100,000 for his education.

When the last rebellion broke out in Cuba, Diaz joined the rebels and was made a captain of cavalry. One day he and a companion were sent ahead to find a camping ground. Spanish sentinels spied them. The two men were chased out on a point of land that made into the sea, and it seemed certain death by drowning or bullets. As night came down, Diaz and his companion dashed into a thicket, dismounted and lashed their horses to make them run while they escaped, with the hope the Spaniards would pursue the riderless beasts in the dark. But the Spanish troops did not take the bait. Then the two rebels obtained a log and pushed out on the water, intending to drift to another part of the shore. The current carried them out to sea, and sunrise found them out of sight of land.

PENNILESS IN NEW YORK.

They drifted in the scorching sun for days, with nothing to eat or drink. Diaz's companion became unconscious, fell off and was drowned. Diaz also became unconscious, in which condition he was found when a vessel picked him up. The craft was bound to

New York, and Diaz stepped ashore here a penniless stranger.

He became a reader of newspapers to the men in a cigar factory. Soon he was confined to a boarding house in Brooklyn with pneumonia. Miss Alice Tucker, a Christian worker, living in the house, went to his bedside and prayed, and left a New Testament. Diaz read it, and it led to his conversion.

The rebellion in Cuba being over, Diaz was sent to the island as a colporteur by the Gethsemane Baptist Church, Willoughby avenue, Brooklyn. When he reached Havana, he resumed his profession. He healed both body and soul, and was the first man to successfully carry Protestantism into the Catholic island.

HIS BIBLES IN JAIL.

He went out of Havana one day on a railroad with two boxes of Bibles. He had been a rebel, and the police were watching him. They thought of dynamite, and he was arrested. He was put in one cell and the Bibles in another. He told the jail officials that he was a naturalized citizen of the United States, and sent word to the American consul. When Sunday came, Diaz wanted to preach to the prisoners, but the jailer refused permission. Undaunted, he sang, prayed aloud, selected a text and preached so that all could

hear. In a week, the American consul succeeded in getting him released. There was a great demand for the Bibles that had been in jail, and he quickly sold the lot. Later, he converted the mayor who had ordered his arrest, the jailer and seventy other persons in the town.

With two of his missionary assistants, Godinez and Herrara, he went to his birthplace in Guanabacoa, in June, 1890, to hold meetings. Before the meeting was over, the three had been arrested and taken before the mayor, charged with holding a meeting without notifying the Spanish authorities, as the law requires. They went to jail. A mob of sympathizers followed and demanded their release. Diaz was obliged to appear on the jail balcony and make a speech to quiet them. Some hours afterward the notice of the meeting was found in the mayor's office, but he was not released until Secretary Blaine interposed.

HIS GREAT WORK.

During the first fifteen months after his church was organized, he baptized 300 persons. The first person to enter his church was his mother, formerly a devout Catholic. When he baptized her, he was so overcome that he forgot the usual ceremony, and could only say, "Lord Jesus, this is my mother." After the church

had been organized two years, he had baptized 1100 persons out of 8000 who offered themselves.

At last reports he had twenty-five assisting clergy, thirty churches and stations, day schools in which 700 pupils were being instructed, 25,000 Sunday-school scholars, industrial schools and three cemeteries. The church used by him in Havana cost the Southern Baptists \$65,000. It was formerly a theatre, and seats 3000 persons.



SPANISH SOLDIERS GUARDING A PLANTATION.



CHAPTER XIII.

SPANISH ATROCITIES.

The butchery of the peaceful inhabitants of Guatao still remains unavenged, and there is no likelihood that this small-sized Armenian incident will meet with justice. The living are too terrified to bear testimony against the Spaniards.

On Colonel Marquez de Corvera will eternally rest the honor of having entered a town and given his soldiers the orders to shoot everyone, no matter who they were. As a result, the women and children, the sick and the dying, were butchered, with ball in some cases and with cold, biting, glittering steel in others.

This has happened again at Lugane, San Jose, Corral Falso and Jesus del Monte. In Guatao alone I am informed by reliable sources that the number of killed, including men and children, were forty-seven persons.

On the plantation Jiquiabo, the property of Don Carlos Pedroso, in Jaruco township, a detachment of Spanish troops assaulted a laborer's shanty, and after tying Eladio Pedroso, they shot his wife to death, one

of the bullets striking her little child, which was in her arms, and breaking her arms.

In the plantation of La Serafina of Don Felipe Cruz, Sergeant Altamirano shot an aged laborer named Carlos Sanchez, because he refused to act as guide for the Spanish column.

In the same village, on the "Azacarte" plantation, the soldiers on duty there shot one Luis Lugo without provocation.

In the township of Jaruco, on the plantation of Morales, the troops of Colonel Tort, commanding the Rural Guards, arrested four men and one woman, on the charge of being insurgent sympathizers, and took them to the armory, where the men were beaten and subsequently killed, as also was the woman, who refused to admit that she was in connection with the rebel forces. The woman, named Margarita Pedrosso, was soon to become a mother.

In the village of San Antonio de los Banos, a man named Bonito Lozada, suspected of insurgent tendencies, was shot to death by the soldiers.

In the village of San Matias, near Jaruco, the forces of Colonel Tejerizo violated the women of the family of Jose Calabuche.

On the plantation of Calixto, of Juanito Hernandez, near Santonio de Las Vegas, Captain Manuel Ruiz Adame, of the Regiment of Isabel the Catholic, shot

to death an inoffensive imbecile who annoyed the troops.

Troops under command of General Ecuague entered the towns of Limonar and Lumidero, boasting that they had sent thirteen rebel sympathizers to meet their fate, and showing their bloody arms as proofs of their butchery.

Lieutenant Corral Y Pedroso, of a cavalry battalion, made the statement in the presence of various persons that he had struck down with his sword two negroes, and further added than when he left for the field he killed every Cuban he could get hold of on the simplest charge, as every Cuban was an insurgent at heart, and that General Weyler had given instructions to the commanders of the operating columns to dispose of as many insurgent sympathizers as possible, and that he would stop any talk and would stand between the officers and the public, but that the insurgents must be put an end to at all hazards.

To further appreciate the condition of this country, I will relate what I heard in the city of Trinidad while there a few days ago. The Rev. Father Cuervo y Canonigo said:

"I believe that all the Cubans possible should be killed off, and clear the country, and in that manner make room for families which would be brought over from Spain to Cuba. The negroes and mulattoes should all be killed off silently and without exciting

any comment, and their property confiscated. Therefore, when we would bring families over from Spain and colonize the island, we would give them this confiscated property, and they would make a good start in life. The Cubans who send their children to the United States to be educated should be taken hold of by the police and quietly placed where they would do the least harm, because those Americans have republican ideas, which are the real cause of the present desire of the Cubans to revolt. The Yankees are the only people who sympathize with the Cubans, and they are responsible for this war."

While at Trinidad I paid a visit to an insurgent camp, commanded by one of their leaders, I believe by one Lacret, and found that the wives and daughters of a great many of the insurgents were with them.

These women are not camp women, but some of the ladies who months ago were shining social lights of the cities of Matanzas, Cardenas, Cienfuegos, Santiago, Camaguey and Havana. The camps were orderly, well established and disciplined.

HORRORS OF THE GARROTE.

Havana, March 31.

A startling exhibition of bungling in the exhibition by the garrote of five Cuban prisoners took place today. The men were classed as "murderers, violators and in-

A CUBAN WOMAN SOLDIER.



A CUBAN SOLDIER.



cendiaries," belonging to Cayajabo, and were recently sentenced to be garroted.

At 7 o'clock this morning a strong force of infantry was drawn up in the form of a square, where the garrote had been erected. The instrument of execution, a chair with a post behind it, an iron collar and screws behind it, which, when turned, strangles or breaks the necks of the victim, was set up by the famous executioner, Valentine Ruiz, who, for some reason not fully explained, acted upon this occasion as the assistant to his own assistant, instead of as the principal executioner.

At the hour the troops were drawn up, the five prisoners were still in their dungeons receiving the ministrations of the priests. One man confessed himself to be guilty of the crimes charged against him, and asserted that his companions were innocent. The latter stoutly maintained their innocence to the last, prayed that their deaths might be avenged upon those who had falsely sent them to the scaffold, and then the whole party was escorted inside the square formed by the soldiers.

FIRST VICTIM.

The man selected as the first victim of the strangling machine quietly and coolly mounted the steps leading to the death chair, took his seat in an unconcerned

manner, and actually seemed to smile as the cap was placed over his head after the iron collar had been adjusted. The man acting as executioner then twisted the lever or screw handle controlling the garrote, but he was evidently terribly nervous, and this rendered him so weak that his hands slipped repeatedly from the lever. There were horrible, smothering, choking cries from the scaffold, and it was only after a long period of agony for the condemned, and almost torture for the spectators, that the Cuban was pronounced dead.

The executioners, priests, soldiers and prison officials present turned their heads away in horror and became deadly pale as the stifled sounds came from the sufferer. But this was only a beginning of the terrible performance.

The second victim was brought to the front and led up the steps to the scaffold by the priests and assistant executioner. Upon reaching the platform, the unfortunate man made an effort to say something to the people surrounding him, but the executioner's hand was placed over his mouth, he was hastily bundled into the deadly chair, and in another moment the iron collar was around his neck, the cap was over his face, and the first turns of the lever had been given. If the actual executioner was nervous upon the occasion of the first killing, he was ten times more so upon this occasion. He fumbled and fumed, alternately turning to a death-like whiteness and flushing crimson with excitement.

The result was slow, fearful strangulation and another horrible experience for the spectators.

RUIZ CALLED UPON.

By this time, the prison officials, the priests and officers in command of the troops had endured enough, and called upon the executioner to get down from the scaffold and let the German take his place. Thereupon the acting executioner feverishly called upon the executioner-in-chief, Valentine Ruiz, who, from long experience, is looked upon as being an expert in his line, to come and help him out of his difficulty.

Ruiz, however, was almost as nervous and excited as his assistant, and fumbled badly as he handled the third Cuban. But Ruiz succeeded in accomplishing the execution in shorter time and with less horror than his assistant, which was a great relief to everybody.

The fourth Cuban was then turned over to Ruiz for strangulation, but by this time Ruiz was shaking all over, and he was much slower and considerably clumsier in sending the unhappy man out of the world, so much so, that there was renewed murmuring at the official incapacity, and Ruiz stumbled away from the death post, insisting, in choking tones, that his assistant must finish the day's work.

Consequently, the assistant executioner again tried his hand at the terrible screw, and was as unlucky as

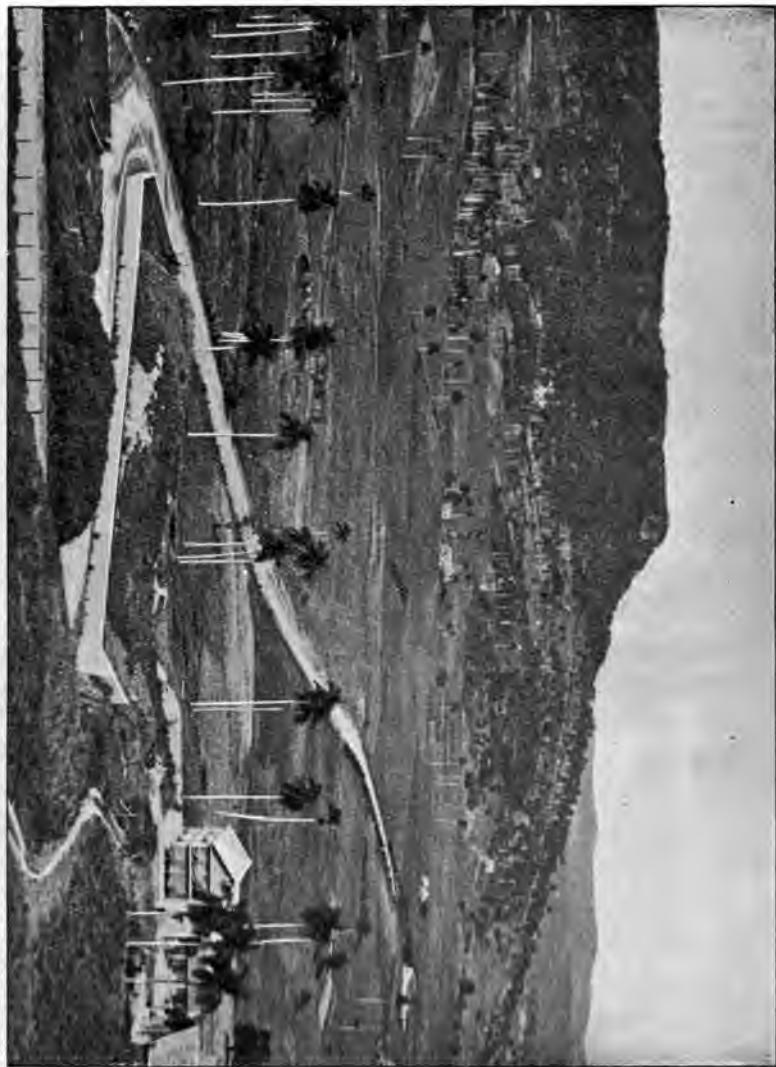
before, for there was another scene of horror, which nearly caused strong men to faint before the fifth Cuban's life was pronounced extinct. And then the bodies were carted away, the shame-faced executioners gathered up their sickening framework and its accessories, the priests, prison and other officials hurried away, the troops were marched back to their quarters, and another chapter had been added to the black history of Cuba.

THE DELGADO OUTRAGE.

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 21.

Special correspondence from Mrs. Woodward, dated Havana, April 15, contains an interview with Dr. Jose Manuel Delgado, the American citizen who was shot and hacked and left for dead by Spanish troops on March 4, when they raided the plantation of Dolores in Mainoa.

Delgado said he was an American neutral, attending to his farm. When captured, he presented his passports as an American citizen. General Melguiso answered by striking him three times with his sword. Delgado and his seven plowmen were tied together with a rope and placed in line. A detail of Spanish troops fired at them by command. Maceo that day had fired Dolores plantation and retired before the Spanish troops.



VALLEY OF THE YUMIRI



A Spanish captain came to Delgado's house with twenty men, told the doctor and his seven field hands to follow. Delgado showed his passport as an American; so did his men. The captain said he had nothing to do with the matter; he was obeying orders; but it was his opinion that the worst thing they could do would be to show that they were Americans. Arriving at General Melguiso's headquarters, Delgado said they were neutrals, and then showed their passports. Melguiso became furious. It was then he struck Delgado with his machete, exclaiming:

"I will shoot you just as I would the consul-general if he were here!"

There were eight of them taken out and tied together with a rope and placed against a stone wall. The order was to cut the prisoners down with machetes. In attempting this the rope broke and the soldiers were ordered to fire. With the first volley, Delgado fell forward, feigning death. The second volley sent a bullet into his thigh. All the others except one were killed.

The doctor was left for dead, and lost consciousness. When he recovered, he found himself in his dwelling. There his old father took care of him. Shortly afterward, Spanish soldiers came searching for the two that had escaped. Delgado's father hid him in a canefield, exposed to the inclement weather. Meantime the old father communicated with Consul-General Williams,

and obtained a safe-conduct to Havana, where Delgado now lies under protection of the United States.

**MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN RUTHLESSLY BUTCHERED
BY FEDERAL SOLDIERS.**

New Orleans, La., April 3.

The Picayune's special Havana letter, dated March 27, gives this summary of events, personally investigated by the writer, which is declared to be accurate in every respect:

In Bainoo, Dr. Vodal Sotolongo made an operation on a poor old man, and when he was convalescent he was one night arrested and taken to the armory of the guardia civil, where they lashed him all over the body, and in spite of his cries they laughed and took him on the outside of the town, where they compelled him to make a grave, where they buried him after he died from the ill-treatment he had received.

On the plantation Salvador, of the Count de Barreto, Lieutenant Betancourt, a Cuban by birth, belonging to the troops of General Aldecoa, shot to death, after hacking him with his machete, a defenseless colored resident who was on his way to join his family. By the first machete blow, he lost an arm, and by the second his head.

In the city of Batabano, the chief of police and other local authorities arrested three individuals and took

them on the outskirts of the town, where they were butchered and left dead on the roadside, the murderers bringing the report to the city that the insurgents had killed the men.

The men in the village of San Felipe, soldiers under command of Colonel Galbis and Colonel Linares, captured three inoffensive laborers and hacked them to pieces amid the laughter of the troops, who shouted that they could not serve the insurgents any more.

THREE CUBANS EXECUTED.

Havana, April 17.

Three prisoners of war, Gregorio Borges, Estaban Hernandez and Jose Baccallao, were executed publicly this morning at the Cabanas fortress. They belonged to the insurgent band commanded by Dr. Gruno Sayres, and were captured by the soldiers of the Arapiles battalion during the attack made by the enemy on Managua, this province, and the burning of property in that vicinity.

Baccallao smoked a cigar during his last moments, and calmly threw it away as he knelt with his face to the wall and his back towards the firing squad. Borges knelt with his hands in his pockets, and coolly turned his head towards the soldiers who were to shoot him. Hernandez attentively watched the shadows of the soldiers on the wall in front of him.

When all was ready, the officer in command of the squad lifted his sword, the rifles were aimed; there was another movement of the sword, the report of the volley echoed from the fortress walls. Borges was killed outright, but Hernandez and Baccallao writhed on the ground after the shooting, and it was found necessary to finish Hernandez with one mercy shot. Two mercy shots were necessary to send Baccallao to his account.

When the execution was over, and the bodies had been carted away, the crowds on the fortress heights silently wandered their way to more congenial scenes, and only three pools of dark blood remained to mark the place where three more of the insurgent army had fallen.



DRIVE TO THE BELLAMAR CAVES, CUBA.



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CHAPTER XIV.

THE RIGHT OF CUBANS TO RECOGNITION AS BELIGERENTS AND TO INDEPENDENCE.

By Hon. Wilkinson Call, United States Senator from Florida.

The island of Cuba is within a few hours' travel of the southern boundary of the United States. It, with the adjacent keys upon the coast of Florida, constitutes, according to all military authority, the absolute control and power over the Gulf of Mexico. It is, perhaps, the most fertile region of the globe, capable of sustaining a population of 8,000,000 or 10,000,000. The climate is adapted to the highest physical development of man. With a government properly constituted and properly administered, it would furnish a home and business for a large portion of the people of the United States. As it is, the country presents a spectacle of ruin, of misgovernment, of barbarous cruelty, which, to say the least, is a disgrace to this civilized age.

I am fully sensible of the great part which Spain has performed in the history of the world, of her ancient chivalry, of the great soldiers of which Gonsalvo de Cordova was the leader and the type, of the glories of

the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella, and of the noble traits of Spanish character, and I speak here of her misgovernment and oppression of the people of Cuba in no spirit of disparagement, but rather attributing these evils to the impossibility of good government under a despotic rule so far removed from the home government and over a dependency where all classes of the people are resolved on a government founded on principles and organized with powers of their own choice. The heroic traits of Spanish character have been transmitted to their Cuban descendants. Their courage, their fortitude, their self-denial, their earnest convictions and their enthusiastic patriotism are all possessed by their Cuban descendants, and these qualities make their struggle for freedom the more desperate and the more certain of success.

For more than a half-century the people of Cuba have been endeavoring to free themselves, as other Spanish colonies have done, from the control of the European government. They have exhibited a degree of patriotism, of courage, of capacity, equal to any which has been presented in the records of history. They are a people of quick and lively intelligence, easily susceptible of education in the higher branches of learning, and, with the opportunities which they have had, their progress is remarkable. They have presented some of the most conspicuous instances of patriotism, of courage and of ability which are to be found in his-

tory. The late Jose Marti, whose life was given disinterestedly to the cause of his fellow-countrymen, is second scarcely to any character in the pages of history; a man of distinguished learning; a man of independent fortune, devoting his entire life to the relief of his people from despotic government, from misgovernment, from cruelty, he is justly regarded as the patriot martyr of that country. So of the present generals in the field, who have come from places of safety to engage in the war, a war prosecuted by these people without means, without arms, without munitions of war, and a war which is the result of a unanimous sentiment upon the part of the people of all classes in Cuba.

This is not the first attempt that has been made by these people to establish an independent government, a government of their own. Incited by our example, instructed by our teachings, acting upon our advice, these people attempted in 1870 to accomplish their independence. For ten long years they maintained a successful war, and submitted only upon the promise that their grievances should be redressed. The report of a committee of the House of Representatives, a majority of whom adopted the report which I have in my hand, recognized the fact that these people were of right entitled to recognition as a belligerent power. This report, made by the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, Mr. Banks, is a full and complete history of that strug-

gle. It contains the references to the public law, which I shall not weary the Senate with reading, conclusively evidencing that where a people are maintaining a civil war, where with any kind of organization, with stability and firmness, they are protecting themselves by the endeavor to establish an independent government of their own, that is a condition which entitles them to the consideration of other nations as belligerents, which entitles them to neutrality on the part of other governments. In that report I find the following:

“The principles involved in this struggle, therefore, are manifest. The people of Cuba fight for—

“Independence of Spain.

“The right of self-government.

“Religious liberty.

“The abolition of slavery.

“Universal suffrage.

“The emancipation of industry and trade.

“The freedom of speech and the press.

“The rights of assembly and petition.

“For general education; and

“All the inalienable rights of the people.”

“They fight for the termination of European governments on this continent. They fight against Spanish tyranny; against monarchical, aristocratic and personal government; against dignities and titles; against the corrupt duplication of offices; against slavery and the slave trade, and against the government at Madrid,



which, to use the language of General Prim, 'in this contest stands before the world opposed to self-government, and resisting the abolition of slavery.' It is to aid the Spanish cause that Spain appeals to us, and it is against her policy, revolting to the spirit of the age and the theory and practice of the American government from its foundation, that we protest.

* * * * *

CUBAN FORCES.

The Cubans had at Yara, October 11, 1868, 147 men; 4000 the 12th of October; 9700 in November and 12,000 in December. They have now 10,000 well-armed men. There are 60,000 enrolled and drilled, but without arms. They claim that, with a supply of arms, they can put into the field 100,000 or 200,000 fighting men—citizens, farmers and emancipated blacks—men of the country fighting for its liberties.

MILITARY OPERATIONS.

"These hostile forces have not forgotten the objects for which they were organized. From the declaration of Cuban independence at Yara to this hour there has not been a week, scarcely a day, which has not been marked in the calendar of war by fierce and bloody contests. No revolution presents a more constant and

determined struggle. Although the Cubans were undisciplined and unaccustomed to the use of arms, of which in the beginning they had few or none, and their enemy was composed of the best troops of the army and navy of Spain, whose places in the military posts of the island had been supplied by the resident Spaniards organized as volunteers, the Cubans nevertheless have been ready to meet their foes in skirmish, combat or battle, and have shown themselves as brave in attack as defense. A record of 200 skirmishes, combats, engagements and battles, occurring from the 11th of October, 1868, to the defeat of Puello and Goyeneche, which terminated the campaign of December, 1869, and January, 1870, give an honorable distinction to the struggle of the Cubans for independence that would in nowise discredit a people long accustomed to self-government or trained to the use of arms.

* * * * *

IT IS REGARDED AS WAR BY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, AND IS SO INTENDED BY CUBA.

"The proclamation of the captain-general, dated July 8, 1869, declares that the war of insurrection against Spain demands speedy and exemplary punishment, and decrees the penalty of death upon those who may be captured in arms.

* * * * *

"The American consul at Santiago de Cuba informs the Secretary of State, June 19, 1869, that the Spanish government applies the most rigorous and barbarous laws, which have made it a war of extermination, shocking to every civilized nation.

"Count Valmaseda issued a decree, April 4, 1869, which declares that there is no longer a place for neutrality; that those who were not for him were against him, and, that his soldiers might know how to distinguish them, they were called upon to observe the orders they themselves carried:

"1. Every man, from the age of fifteen years upward, found away from his habitation, who does not prove a justified motive therefor, will be shot.

"2. Every habitation unoccupied will be burned by the troops.

"3. Every habitation, from which does not float a white flag, as a signal that its occupants desire peace, will be reduced to ashes.

"The Secretary of State, May 19, is instructed by the President to protest in the most forcible manner against such a mode of warfare, and demands that persons having a right to claim the protection of the United States shall not be sacrificed or injured in the conduct of hostilities upon this basis.

* * * * *

"The American consul-general at Habana recently received from the British naval officers the assurance

of their protection and the offer of a file of marines to protect him whenever it became necessary to seek his safety on board a British man-of-war. And, still later, the American vice-consul at Santiago de Cuba was called to account for dispatches sent to his government, and published by the order of Congress, by the unauthorized and irresponsible volunteers who govern Cuba; and, under the advice of the Spanish governor, who was unable to protect him, sought his safety from personal violence by taking refuge on board a French frigate, under the protection of French naval officers."

Here upon our immediate shores, here where a people following the declarations of our Declaration of Independence and the principles upon which this government is founded, a people with acknowledged grievances which all the departments of this government have affirmed, which the report of the committee of the House of Representatives has declared, which the Secretaries of State for more than twenty-five years, yes, I will say for more than fifty years, have repeatedly brought to the attention of this government; a people to whom neither law nor liberty is allowed; a people as to whom the laws of war are not regarded by the dominant government, against whom a war merciless in respect to age, sex and condition is maintained in a case of this kind, where these people, acting upon the principles which we have declared and the advice which we have given to them, assert precisely the same prin-

the United States. The re-establishment in France of a system of government disconnected with the dynastic traditions of Europe appeared to be a proper subject for the felicitations of Americans. Should the present struggle result in attaching the hearts of the French to our simpler forms of representative government, it will be a subject of still further satisfaction to our people. While we make no effort to impose our institutions upon the inhabitants of other countries, and while we adhere to our traditional neutrality in civil contests elsewhere, we cannot be indifferent to the spread of American political ideas in a great and highly civilized country like France."

President Jefferson, in his third annual message, in 1803, said:

"Congress witnessed, at their last session, the extraordinary agitation produced in the public mind by the suspension of our right of deposit at the port of New Orleans, no assignment of another place having been made according to treaty."

Mr. Jefferson, in writing to President Madison, April 27, 1809, said:

"It will be objected to our receiving Cuba that no limit can then be drawn to our future acquisitions. Cuba can be defended by us without a navy."

Mr. Everett, in discussing the territorial growth of the United States, used the following language:

"The island of Cuba lies at our doors. It commands

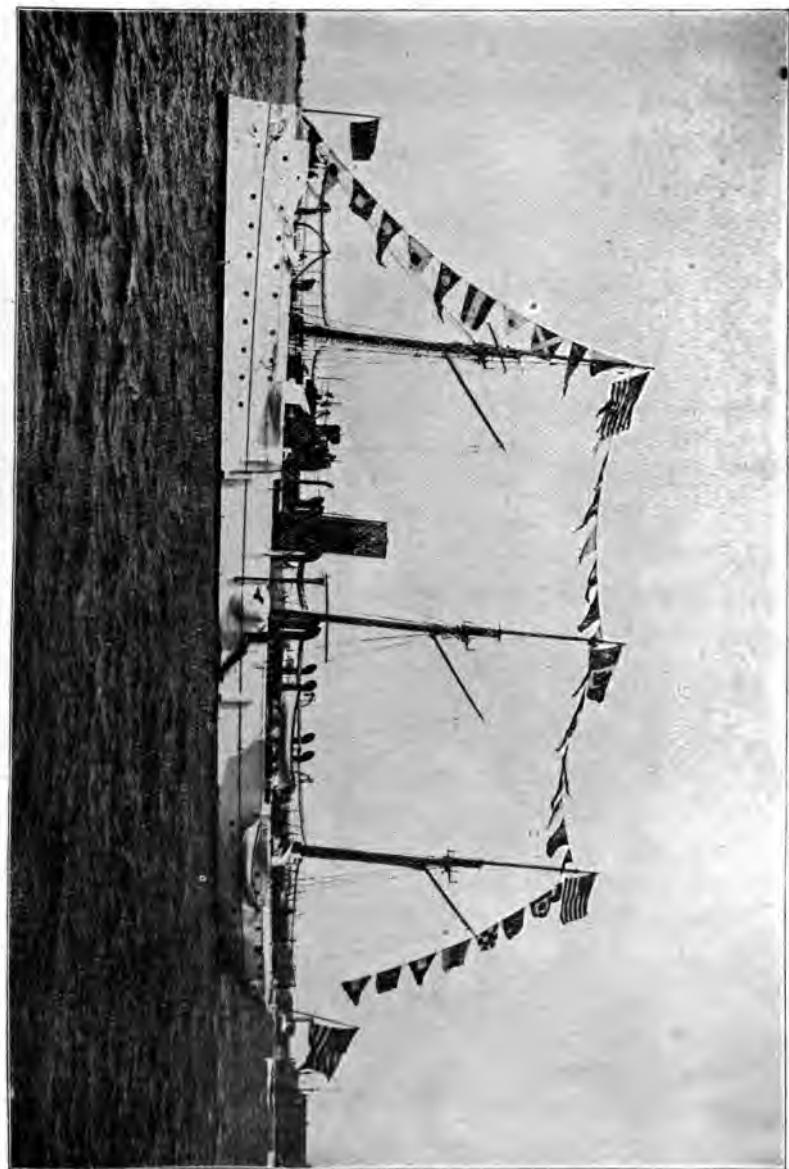
the approach to the Gulf of Mexico, which washes the shores of five of our States. It bars the entrance of that great river which drains half the North American continent, and with its tributaries forms the largest system of internal water communication in the world. It keeps watch at the doorway of our intercourse with California by the Isthmus route."

Mr. Everett, writing to Lord John Russell, in 1853, said:

"A recent impartial French traveler, M. Ampere, confirms this impression. All the ordinary political rights enjoyed in free countries are denied to the people of that island. The government is, in principle, the worst form of despotism, namely, absolute authority delegated to a military viceroy, and supported by an army from abroad. I speak of the nature of the government and not of the individuals by whom it is administered, for I have formed a very favorable opinion of the personal character of the present captain-general, as of one or two of his predecessors."

I have here a report which I shall proceed to read. As I have stated, it is from a person who has been formerly connected with the diplomatic affairs of this country in foreign countries, a man of accurate observation, with ample means of observation, a man of character and reliability in every respect. He says:

"I came from Mexico to New York by sea, stopping at Habana. I discovered one thing before I had been



"CONCORD" (Gunnboat).



A MORTAR BATTERY IN ACTION, DEFENDING A HARBOR.

there six hours, that none of the official reports sent from Cuba portrayed the real condition of affairs. I met a vast number of people and a number of haciendados, or planters, from the Santa Clara district. I failed to find one Cuban under the age of thirty-five who was not an officeholder who was not in complete sympathy with the insurgents.

"In Habana the feeling is very strong for the belligerents, but the city is so covered with spies that it is difficult for anyone but an American to learn the truth. I was told, and I soon saw for myself, that Habana was as strongly revolutionary as any part of the island. The business condition of that city is deplorable, and will be much worse if the insurgents prevent the grinding of the crops. It is hourly expected that such an order will be issued to the haciendados. This will bring about a complete paralysis of the island, and will make out of every laborer a revolutionist. On the boat from Habana to New York I met one of the wealthiest planters of the Santa Clara district, who is a son of a Spanish marquis. He was introduced to me in Habana as one of the most influential men of the island. He says that it is a great error that the insurgents are made up mostly of negroes. He has been among them, and says they are as fine a body of men as could be gotten together. He had abandoned his hacienda because he had been ordered not to grind. He says that it will not be an unpopular movement for the insurgents to

prevent the grinding over the entire island, because every man who owns a foot of land knows that this is the only way to bring the revolution to a close. He says, however, that the insurgent leaders are only waiting to see what this Congress will do. If the United States or other nations fail to recognize the belligerency of Cuba by January, the grinding will be prevented. This is a difficult thing to do. The grinding will begin in December. It must be understood that the sugar-cane is only planted once in ten or twelve years. There will be no invasion of the plantations, but when a planter continues to grind when ordered not to do so, several insurgents are sent out to get employment at such places. When the wind is favorable, the cane is fired, and there is no power under heaven that can prevent its total destruction. The planters know this, and will make no attempt to grind if ordered not to do so. Many have already ceased to grind preparatory to the order being issued.

"I was told by a number of Cubans, who are of pure Spanish descent, that it is impossible to put down this revolution even by concessions. The war up to this time has been purely guerrilla fighting. The insurgents fire from ambush, and before the Spanish army can recover themselves, the insurgents have fled. This is kept up on all the lines of march of the Spanish troops, and they are harassed even after they are encamped. But every time the insurgents fire and re-

treat, it is given out officially that they were routed. In Mexico there are a number of young men who have been sent there by their families for fear they would join openly in the rebellion. On the boat with me from Habana, there were three whom I was told by other Cubans were being sent abroad until the revolution is over. They, with six others, had left Habana and joined the belligerents. They were recaptured, and their family influence was such that they were sent from the island instead of being imprisoned. The whole hope and feeling of the Cubans, so far as I could learn, is to become a State in the Union. A business man told me in Habana that even the Spanish themselves on the island admit that any condition would be better than that now existing."

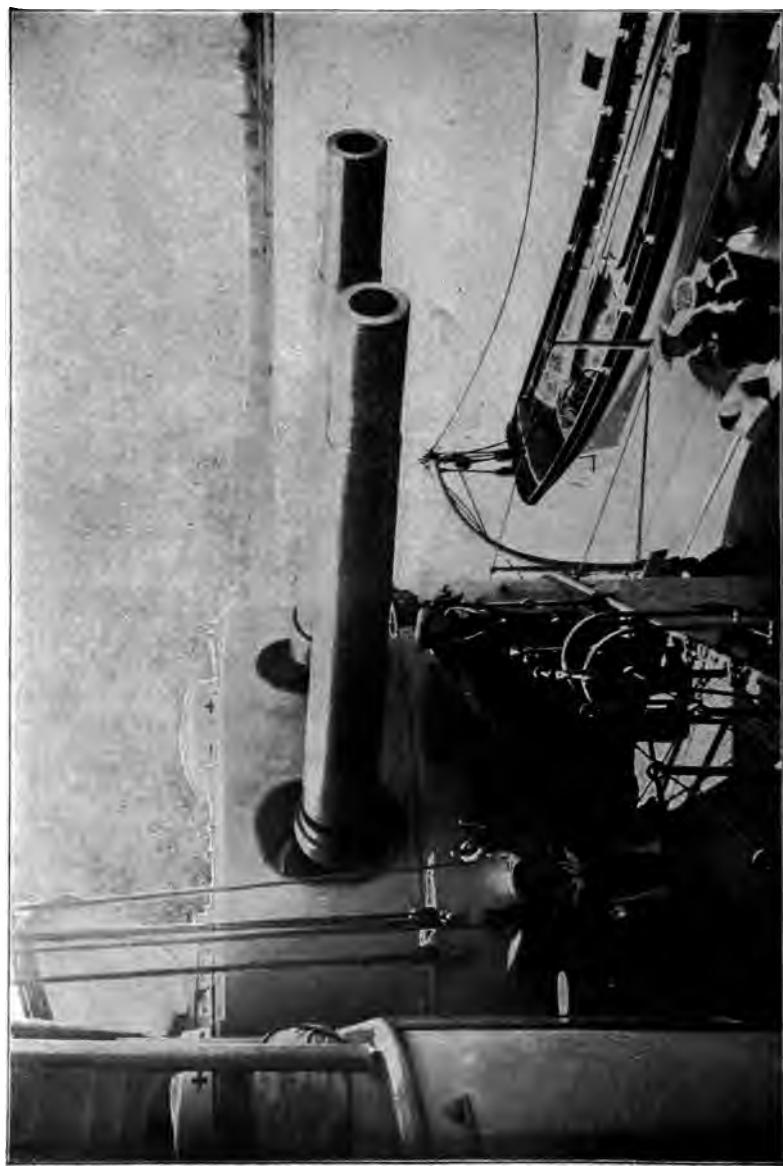
The same statement contained in the correspondence is found in the report made by General Banks twenty-five years ago. During all that period of time these people, being promised some relief from the condition of oppressive taxation, of despotic rule, which prevailed over them, have been contending against these evils, and now, finding the situation intolerable, finding that property yields no return, that labor is without adequate compensation, that no native Cuban is allowed to hold any office of dignity or trust, that the natives are entirely deprived of all control over their own country and their own affairs, and a military despotism constantly maintained and supported by armed troops

brought from Spain, they have protested in the face of the civilized world against these wrongs. They have the same cause precisely that we had for our Declaration of Independence. We may take phrase by phrase that great proclamation which resounded throughout the world with a gleam of hope to all oppressed people, and we will find that their case is parallel in all respects to our own. Take the declaration that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, and that they have a right to assert a change in their form of government when oppressed and deprived of the objects for which government is instituted. We find that the Cubans are precisely in line with ourselves in that respect, and they have a right to claim whatever consideration the public law will allow a power in that condition.

I ask the immediate consideration of the Committee on Foreign Relations to the joint resolution. American citizens are being imprisoned. I understand that General Sanguilly, whom the paper reports was sentenced to hard labor for life, is an American citizen, entitled to the protection of this government. I am informed, whether correctly or not I am unable to state, that his trial was a mock trial; that there is no just ground of suspicion even against him, much less proof; that it is true he was a general and a leader in the former revolution, but that he has taken no part, whatever his sympathies may be, in the present struggle.



NATIVE CANDY SELLER.



UPPER TURRETS AND EIGHT-INCH GUNS ON "MASSACHUSETTS."

If that be true, then it is the imperative duty of this government to interfere. If there are other cases in which Americans have been deprived of their rights, it is the imperative duty of this government to interfere. But beyond that, what considerations of public policy are there which justify Spain in continuing to enforce her government over those people?

The island is very remote from her home country—from the kingdom of Spain. Cuba is the last remaining vestige, with the little island immediately adjacent to it, of her vast dominion upon this continent. It is a great expense to her. It must yield in the future to the rapidly increasing population of the American republics and to the force which they can bring to bear. It must yield to the consideration of the necessity for the control of that island by this government, with its 70,000,000 people, soon to be 100,000,000. The future renders it impossible that Spain can maintain her dominion there. Why, then, should not this great government say that this butchery and destruction of human life shall cease? Why shall we not say to Spain, in peaceable and respectful negotiations, that we are willing to protect the people of Cuba, and to make to her such compensation as may be reasonably adequate, she being the responsible party? I can see no reason why we should not do so.

That island must be subject to our dominion in some shape, and although annexation is not now desirable,

yet it is desirable that those people should be an independent people, and that they should be subject to our protection. The island should not be a place from which, under any condition whatever, hostile fleets or hostile armies can be directed against the United States or against our commerce in the Gulf of Mexico. There are, therefore, no considerations of policy which can justify our further aiding the government of Spain in subjecting Cuba to her domination, nor can there be any considerations in the interest of Spain herself which would justify such a policy.

I see in the public prints which I have here that the people of Spain are themselves beginning to revolt against the home government; that the vast expense with which this struggle is burdening the people of Spain is creating discontent. It will inevitably destroy the dynasty of the government if it is persisted in, because the Cuban people will stand upon the everlasting principles of right. If our government is a true government, and is founded upon a true declaration of principles, they have a right to establish their independence. They are justified in the assertion of that right by the oppression and the misgovernment which for more than a century has been imposed upon them. They are justified by the natural and proper ambition of any people for prosperity and for reasonable promotion for their young men in the public service. With one-half the evils that exist in Cuba our people would

long ago have risen in revolt against any government, even if it sacrificed the last man in the country.

In my judgment, there is no consideration which forbids us immediately according to these people the rights of belligerents in our ports and territory. It would be no cause of offense to Spain. Spain declared that the Confederacy was a belligerent power and recognized it. The proclamation of the English government recognized the civil war in the South. Both of those proclamations I have in my hand. When these people have acted upon our example, upon our advice, under our instruction; when they are asserting precisely the rights which we have declared in the face of the world justify forcible resistance, the organization of a new government and the establishment of its powers in accordance with their wishes; when they are pursuing precisely the course which we have advised them to pursue, with what justice or propriety can this great people hesitate to accord to them the full rights of belligerents, when Spain did it to the South, when England did it by proclamation? It seems to me we should be glad to do it; that we should embrace eagerly the opportunity to encourage those people by extending to them the same aid that we do to the Spanish government. Yet what is our attitude?

This government is actually giving aid and comfort to the Spaniards against the Cubans. It is the power of this government that today maintains the Spanish

army in the island of Cuba. It is this government which is responsible for the outrages. I do not mean to say that it is the President or his cabinet, but that it is this government, and the attitude it occupies in all its branches in not declaring that those people are entitled to belligerent rights in our ports and territory, which today is maintaining the power of Spain in the island of Cuba.

We allow munitions of war to be bought by Spain, we allow ships to be fitted out, we allow Spain to purchase whatever is necessary in the way of supplies to continue the war; but the Cubans are prohibited from doing so, and the whole power of our government is exercised to deprive them of these rights in our territory. I say there is no ground of public law and no ground of public policy in respect to our relations, present and future, with the island of Cuba which justify it. I say there is no ground of justice that permits it; no ground of humanity that would tolerate it. It will be a disgrace to our country if a people following our example, acting upon our advice, a people who can claim that every line in our Declaration of Independence furnishes a parallel to their own case, shall, by our aid and our acquiescence, be permitted to be crushed, their women and children murdered and merciless war maintained against them.

My attention has been called to a proclamation of General Gomez in regard to the destruction of prop-

ROYAL PALM TREES.





EIGHT-INCH FORWARD GUN ON THE "ATLANTA."

erty. The report which I have read explains that matter. It is not a destruction of property. It is simply a declaration that as a military necessity the operation of grinding cane and manufacturing sugar shall not, for the present, be continued. The cane is not destroyed. It is only destroyed where the military order is disobeyed. My information is that the Cuban owners of this property, and even the Spaniards who own it, concur in this order and recognize its propriety and wisdom. But if that were not so, what comparison does that bear to the merciless destruction of human life which is carried on by the other side? What of the arrest and trial upon suspicion of citizens, subjects of Spain or American citizens, and their transportation to the penal colony of Spain, with all its horrors?

I hope the Committee on Foreign Relations will take this subject into consideration. I hope it will not postpone action, but that it will be moved by these considerations to report at an early day in favor of the joint resolution which I introduced, or some other measure that will accord to the people of Cuba the same rights in our territory and our courts that are now given to Spain—the rights which a neutral government accords whenever there is a condition of civil war. As I have said, I do not care to occupy the time of the Senate for any length of time by reading the various authorities upon the subject of international war,

of public war, in case of resistance by a people, but I will read a few citations here.

"A civil war," Vattel says, "is when a party arises in a State which no longer obeys the sovereign, and is sufficiently strong to make head against him, or when, in a republic, the nation is divided into two opposite factions, and both sides take up arms.

* * * * *

"When a part of a State takes up arms against the government, if it is sufficiently strong to resist its action, and to constitute two parties of equally balanced forces, the existence of civil war is thenceforward determined.

* * * * *

"It is no ground of offense to a nation that civil war is recognized as a public condition of war. It is no ground of offense that neutrality between the contending parties is declared to be the proper attitude of other nations toward such a struggle."

So said Mr. Webster, so said Mr. Frelinghuysen, so declared Mr. Everett, and there is an extensive correspondence here, setting forth by all these different officials and Secretaries of our government the same civil war in its most cruel form by the Spanish government upon the people of Cuba. Here is a half-century declaration of atrocious war, of merciless hostility, of declarations of an authentic character from our own government and our own Secretaries of State, declar-

ing that those people are not only engaged in a war which entitles them to recognition, but that it is a war in which humanity itself demands that they should be accorded the rights of belligerents.

I submit that Cuba is "the queen of the Antilles." It is the most desirable place of residence in the West India islands for the human race. The conditions of life are easier there; there is less of extreme poverty; labor obtains a more adequate and more comfortable reward than anywhere else. The day will come when it will be the Garden of Eden of the human race. The day will come when a confederated republic of the islands of the West Indies will be established. Unless this civilization of ours is a failure, and this republican government of ours a fraud and a falsehood, it is the part of wisdom that we should recognize the fact. If these free institutions of ours are to build up a happy people, are to ameliorate the poverty of the world, are to create a higher condition of humanity, it is the part of wise statesmanship in us to say that the cruelties of merciless war shall not be practiced upon a people immediately within our reach and following our example, taught by our precepts to do that which they are doing.

I hope that the disgrace we are now under of actually aiding the government of Spain by the present condition of the public laws in oppression and merciless rule over these people will be avoided by early action on the part of Congress.

The people of the United States, with great unanimity, desire this action from us, and require such proceeding as will secure freedom and independence to Cuba.

The will of the people has been expressed in great meetings in New York, Chicago and the cities of the several States.

It is not the part of friendship to Spain to delay this action. The sooner the United States speaks in determined but friendly and respectful terms, the better for Spain, and for Cuba, and all the best interests of the nations.

A CURAN PLOUGHMAN.



If that be the doctrine of international law, where would be the government of the United States today and the people of the United States? Instead of assembling here as Senators from sovereign States, under the constitution of a free country, this would be another dominion parliament like that of Canada, and the United States of America would simply be an appanage of the British Throne. If France had acted upon the doctrine announced by the Senator from California and waited until our fathers had achieved their own independence, the result would have been far different, and we today would be English subjects instead of free citizens of a free country.

France recognized the independence of the United States, and then went farther than any other country has ever gone in behalf of another, except for the purpose of self-interest. She sent her armies and her fleets here, and placed upon the people of the United States a debt of undying gratitude. When I heard the Senator from Maine, Mr. Frye, our President pro tempore, read the wonderful Farewell Address of the Father of his Country last Saturday, I was struck with the argument which Washington felt himself called upon to make in defense of his proclamation of neutrality in 1793.

In all the life of that most remarkable man, the greatest in all respects the world has ever produced, there is no episode more startling or interesting than

the history of his issuing that proclamation in 1793, which declared that the people of the United States would remain neutral in the struggle between France and the combined armies of Europe. France, with a disinterestedness which, I say, has put a debt of undying gratitude upon us and our children, had sent her armies and fleets to help us in a struggle with the throne of England. When the continental armies combined against France, and when the soldiers of France had marched across the Continent fighting the world in arms, with their flags upon which was emblazoned, "Death to tyrants and liberty to all," Washington refused to give one dollar or to send one man to assist our former allies, although England headed the combination against republican France.

Washington was right, and his greatness was never so demonstrated as when he stood against popular clamor in the United States, and declared that we could never with safety depart from the great doctrine of absolute neutrality in the affairs and wars of Europe.

It is a singular fact, that while today we almost deify Washington, while he is now, and will always, so long as a single colony of Americans can be found, be "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," at the time when he issued that proclamation, with the assistance of Jefferson, a mob gathered around his private residence, then the Executive Mansion, and personal violence was absolutely threat-

ened to the President of the United States and the savior of the republic. That he stood against that clamor is a tribute to his memory greater than can be paid by the most fervid eloquence.

I do not agree with the views of the Senator from California as to the recognition of the independence of a foreign country or a foreign people struggling for their rights to self-government. If the doctrine be correct all vestige of military power on the part of the mother country or the country that seeks to put down the insurrection must be swept away before we can act, then our action is simply brutum fulmen and amounts to nothing. The people themselves have already struck the blow that made them free, and we can only accept results, and say that the fiat of the god of battles has been put upon their endeavor to assert the right to govern themselves. If we as the great republic of the world mean to stand by these people who are imitating us and endeavoring to make a government for themselves like that of this country, we must help them in their hour of need, and if we do not go so far as to do it by arms, which is not advocated by anybody in this chamber or out of it, we can at least do so by stating to the world that we believe the attempt of the monarchy of Spain to suppress this insurrection, as they term it, this endeavor to form a republic upon the island of Cuba, is absolutely hopeless and desperate, as I believe under God it is today There will never



ROYAL PALMS, BOTANICAL GARDENS.

This is no new question, because it has been at our doors as Cuba is geographically at our door today. It has been before us in the years that are past. My friend from Texas handed me some months ago a singular paper taken from one of the letters of Mr. Jefferson. It sounds today almost like prophecy, and I will read it:

“Napoleon will certainly give his consent without difficulty to our receiving the Floridas, and with some difficulty possibly Cuba.

* * * * *

“That he would give us the Floridas to withhold intercourse with the residue of those colonies cannot be doubted. But that is no price; because they are ours in the first moment of the first war; and until a war they are of no particular necessity to us. But, although with difficulty, he will consent to our receiving Cuba into our Union, to prevent our aid to Mexico and the other provinces. That would be a price, and I would immediately erect a column on the southernmost limit of Cuba, and inscribe on it a ne plus ultra as to us in that direction. We should then have only to include the north in our confederacy, which would be, of course, in the first war, and we should have such an empire for liberty as she has never surveyed since the creation; and I am persuaded no constitution was ever before so well calculated as ours for extensive empire and self-government. As the Mentor went away before this change, and will leave France probably while

it is still a secret in that hemisphere, I presume the expediency of pursuing her with a swift-sailing dispatch was considered. It will be objected to our receiving Cuba that no limit can then be drawn to our future acquisitions. Cuba can be defended by us without a navy, and this develops the principle which ought to limit our views. Nothing should ever be accepted which would require a navy to defend it." (Volume V, page 445. Letter to the President, April 27, 1809.)

From the Spanish press, under the espionage of the Spanish authorities, it can be proven that every Cuban is in sympathy with the patriotic endeavor to achieve independence and self-government upon that island. No instance can be found in which a people combined and confederated and unanimous as they are, a million and a half of people, have ever been subjugated except by extermination. Why, what American boy does not recollect that burning oration of Henry Clay, the great orator of the West, when he spoke for Greece in 1824, and when he predicted that so long as Thermopylæ and Marathon were there no Greek would lay down his arms before the Turkish power?

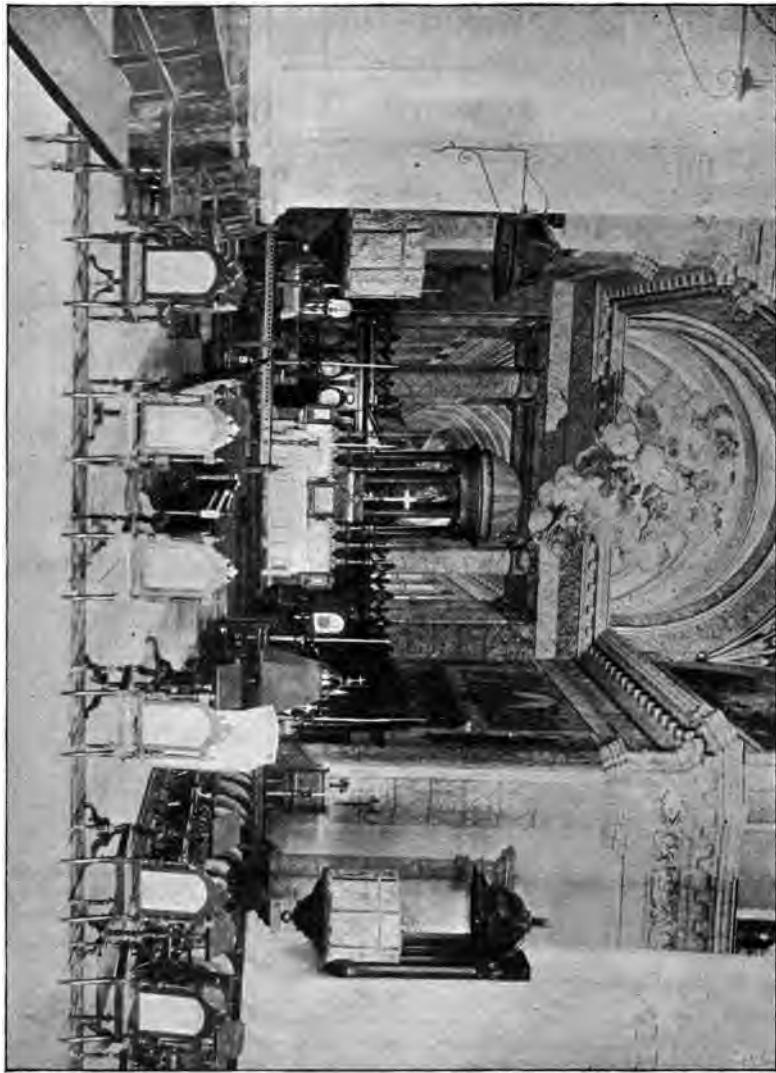
We are told now that these are negroes, mulattoes, Indians, who are fighting for independence. So much the more cause why we should sympathize with them and say, God help them in their dire extremity. Liberty lives with the poor and oppressed, not with the wealthy and powerful. It throbs in the breast of the

caged bird, and has gone with martyrs to the stake and kissed their burning lips as the spirit winged its flight to God. Liberty cannot be extinguished when a people are unanimous in defense of the rights which God has given them. If these people, ignorant and poor, struggling against this despotism, have imitated us, why should we content ourselves with the poor expression of sympathy with their cause?

It is a mere farce for us to do anything else than declare before the world that we believe the cause of the Spaniard is hopeless in the island of Cuba. Each Senator must answer that for himself. I deny and I repudiate the doctrine that all vestige of Spanish power shall be eliminated from Cuba before we can recognize the independence of that people.

Reverting again to that wonderful letter of Jefferson, it has been said in criticism that in 1809, when Mr. Jefferson wrote it, he was simply writing in the interest of extending the slave power by annexing Cuba to the South. My answer is that never in one hour or minute of his life did Mr. Jefferson want to extend the area of slavery. Of all the men in this country who opposed slavery, Thomas Jefferson was the foremost. When he was twenty-three years old, and went, a beardless boy, into the House of burgesses in Virginia as a delegate from his native county of Albemarle, his first measure was a bill for the gradual removal of slavery from the soil of Virginia, and although a slave-

INTERIOR OF CATHEDRAL.



CHAPTER XVI.

SPANISH DESPOTISM IN CUBA SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES.

By Hon. Roger Q. Mills, United States Senator from Texas.

I shall not treat this question as one which demands from the people of the United States the recognition of the insurgents of Cuba as belligerents. The people of Cuba have far better rights, far stronger claims to the consideration of the American people than their recognition as belligerents. * * * * *

Our fathers for a century have asserted and maintained that the people of the United States had rights in Cuba, rights not only in Cuba, but in every foot of soil in this hemisphere, and rights that they said they were ready not only to assert, but to maintain with the whole of the military and naval power of the republic. We have never asserted that we had any rights in Ireland, in Hungary, in Poland, or anywhere in Europe, but we have asserted that we have a right in every square acre of land in this hemisphere, and the highest right, the right of self-preservation of our own household. We find this declaration of rights proclaimed away back in the beginning of our century. It has

been stated here that Mr. Canning was the author of what is known as the Monroe doctrine. The Monroe doctrine is as old as humanity. God was the author of the Monroe doctrine. When He made man He gave him a right to preserve his life and his liberty, and when men are associated together in States, the nation and the States have the same rights that the individual has.

The man who owns a tract of land adjoining mine, owns it from the centre of the earth to the centre of the sky. So the books all tell us. Yet if he builds a powder house upon his land, I have a right to have it abated. If that land is so situated that an enemy can seize it at any time and imperil my life and the lives of my wife and my children, I have a right in every foot of that land for the preservation of a higher right than his right to the title and possession of his land.

In 1802 and 1803, Mr. Jefferson asserted to Spain that the people of the United States had a right to the navigation of the Mississippi river. At that time Spain owned all the soil on the western bank of the Mississippi river. She owned the east bank of the lower river back to the Floridas. Mr. Jefferson asserted that we had a right to traverse the Mississippi river from our own territory across the territory of Spain—a right that we would maintain by force if necessary, a right which Spain could not and should not take from us. Not only did he assert that we had a right to navigate the river out to the sea, but that we had a right of deposit

ON THE ROAD TO THE CAVES.



at New Orleans, where the waters between the ocean and the river met, because he said the craft that navigated the river could not navigate the ocean, and the craft that navigated the ocean could not navigate the river, and there must be a change of freight; that we were entitled to the facilities on the land of Spain, and if that land was subject to overflow, we had a right to go to the highlands where the freight would be protected, and there to use such means as we thought proper to protect our property. He said our right to navigate the river through Spanish territory was an inherent right, and the right to navigate comprehended all the means that were necessary to its use; that the right of navigation would be useless without the deposit, so that passengers and freight could be exchanged from one vessel to another.

Prior to the year 1800, as I have said, Spain owned all the country afterwards known as Louisiana. In the year 1800 she transferred to Napoleon Bonaparte all that territory. Did she not have a right to do it? Was she not the sovereign of the soil? Most unquestionably she was. But when she conveyed that territory to Napoleon Bonaparte, and Mr. Jefferson learned of the fact, then being President, he told his minister to say to Napoleon Bonaparte: "You have assumed an attitude of defiance against this government; you have taken a spot of soil that imperils the rights and liberties of the people of this country. We could have per-

mitted that territory to remain in the possession of Spain; Spain could not threaten our peace, our power, nor the safety of our homes. That river and its tributaries drain three-fourths of our country; its branches go through that vast extent of country that was soon to be settled by millions of people. The power that holds the mouth of the Mississippi river is necessarily the enemy of the United States if it has strength enough to imperil our institutions;" and he told the ambassador, Mr. Robert R. Livingston, to present these facts to the French government. I will read from his letter In a letter to Mr. Robert R. Livingston, April 18, 1802, in Paris, Mr. Jefferson says:

There is on the globe one single spot the possessor of which is our natural and habitual enemy. It is New Orleans, through which the produce of three-eighths of our territory must pass to market, and from its fertility it will ere long yield more than half of our whole produce, and contain more than half of our inhabitants. France, placing herself in that door, assumes to us the attitude of defiance. Spain might have retained it quietly for years. Her pacific disposition, her feeble state, would induce her to increase our facilities there, so that her possession of the place would be hardly felt by us, and it would not, perhaps, be very long before some circumstance might arise which might make the cession of it to us the price of something of more worth to her. Not so can it ever be in the hands of France. The impetuosity of her temper, the energy and restlessness of her character, placed in a point of eternal friction with us, and our character, which, though quiet and loving peace and the pursuit of wealth, is high-minded, despising wealth in competition with insult or

injury, enterprising and energetic as any nation on earth—these circumstances render it impossible that France and the United States can continue long friends when they meet in so irritable a position. They, as well as we, must be blind if they do not see this; and we must be very improvident if we do not begin to make arrangements on that hypothesis. The day that France takes possession of New Orleans fixes the sentence which is to restrain her forever within her low-water mark. It seals the union of two nations, who, in conjunction, can maintain exclusive possession of the ocean. From that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation.

Why this strong protest against France that had acquired jurisdiction over that territory, that had acquired all the title, as strong a title as Spain could convey? She was the sole possessor and the sole owner of it before. Why this strong language if we had not a right even superior to the right of France, superior to the right of Spain, superior to the right of any power that could imperil our life as a nation?

Let us go on. He writes to Mr. Dupont, a very distinguished Frenchman who was here, and the friend of Mr. Jefferson, a man of influence in France and whom he made the bearer of this letter. The date of this letter to Mr. Dupont is April 25, 1802:

I wish you to be possessed of the subject, because you may be able to impress on the government of France the inevitable consequences of their taking possession of Louisiana; and though, as I here mention, the cession of New Orleans and the Floridas to us would be a palliation, yet I believe it would be no more, and that this measure will cost France, and perhaps

not very long hence, a war which will annihilate her on the ocean and place that element under the despotism of two nations, which I am not reconciled to, the more because my own would be one of them.

Again, Mr. Jefferson says to him in the same letter:

In Europe, nothing but Europe is seen or supposed to have any right in the affairs of nations; but this little event of France's possessing herself of Louisiana, which is thrown in as nothing, as a mere makeweight in the general settlement of accounts—this speck which now appears as an almost invisible point in the horizon—is the embryo of a tornado which will burst on the countries on both sides of the Atlantic and involve in its effects their highest destinies. That it may yet be avoided is my sincere prayer; and if you can be the means of informing the wisdom of Bonaparte of all its consequences, you have deserved well of both countries.

Again, he writes to Governor Monroe, whom he sent as ambassador extraordinary to act in conjunction with Mr. Livingston to try to settle this controversy:

If we cannot by a purchase of the country insure to ourselves a course of perpetual peace and friendship with all nations, then, as war cannot be distant, it behooves us immediately to be preparing for that course, without, however, hastening it; and it may be necessary (on your failure on the Continent) to cross the Channel.

Again, writing to Mr. Dupont on February 1, 1803, speaking of the Mississippi river, for that is one of the points on which Mr. Jefferson asserted the right:

For the occlusion of the Mississippi is a state of things in which we cannot exist. He (Monroe) goes, therefore, joined with Chancellor Livingston, to aid in the issue of a crisis the most important the United

States have ever met since their independence, and which is to decide their future character and career.

He uses that same language in his letter to President Monroe in 1823, that this is the most important subject the American people have ever considered since independence. One was to acquire it and the other to maintain it. Here is a question of such transcendent importance that the President of the United States in 1802 sends an envoy extraordinary to act in conjunction with the minister to France to impress upon Napoleon Bonaparte, then rapidly ascending toward the zenith of that splendor and fame which he afterwards acquired—a monarch who presided over a country whose arms were at that time shaking down all the thrones in Europe—and Jefferson tells him if he persists in asserting the claim to the mouth of the Mississippi river, we will unite with the British people and the British nation and join together and sweep him off the face of the ocean; and he tells his ambassador, "In case you fail on the Continent, cross the channel and go to London," to that London where the marriage ceremony was to be celebrated—it was at London that the agreement of marriage was to be made and signed—"go to London, make the agreement between Great Britain and ourselves, and if necessary we will sweep the French fleets off the oceans of the earth in order to maintain the right we asserted to the mouth

A FRUIT STAND.



of the Mississippi river, notwithstanding France had a perfect title to it."

But what does this mean? Wherever there are rights there are duties. If it was our right to secure our people the free use of the Mississippi river, it was our duty to do it. In 1823, Mr. Monroe informed the Holy Alliance that we would not permit any European power to interfere with the revolted Spanish provinces in this hemisphere. Why? Because our political institutions would be imperiled, and to secure the liberties of our people, monarchies and large standing armies must be interdicted in this hemisphere. This hemisphere was dedicated by its people to liberty and representative government. Jefferson said the Spanish provinces had a right to be free, and we had the same right to aid them that "a strong man has to assist a weak one when assailed by a robber or a murderer."

Why did we in 1865 send an army to the Rio Grande? The republic of Mexico had been invaded by a European army, its republican government was overthrown, and an Austrian emperor had erected his throne upon the ruins. That act was an invasion of our rights as well as the rights of the Mexican people. And our army on the east bank of the Rio Grande was notice to all concerned that the empire was at an end in Mexico. This bold movement was not prompted by mere sym-

pathy for the people of Mexico, but by a regard for our own rights and the safety of our own people.

Monarchies live by large standing armies. They do not consult the will of the people; they rule by force. If, then, a monarchy could be established in Mexico at our doors, supported by a standing army strong enough to suppress the public will, we could only maintain our government here by an army of equal or superior strength, and when the American people establish such an army to protect themselves against foreign invasion, they abandon the whole of their institutions and adopt the idea of the governments of Europe—a government of force.

Why was it, just the other day, that the President of the United States, after having been for years trying to get the consent of England to negotiate the disputed question of boundary with the republic of Venezuela, said when that proposition was declined, that we would resist the absorption of that territory by Great Britain with all the means at our disposal, and made every American heart throb in response to that declaration? Why did he do it? Was it because we wanted to embroil ourselves in a controversy about a strip of land in Venezuela? No; but because the occupation of that territory might remotely affect the interests, the well-being and the safety of the people of the United States.

Here at our doors is an island which our fathers called the key to the Gulf of Mexico. It locks and un-

locks the door to that great inland sea, whose waters wash the shores of five of our States. Into its basin the Mississippi river and all its tributaries pour their accumulated floods. With that gulf open to the fleets of a great naval power, and its key in the hands of that power, not only would our immense commerce going down the Mississippi and gathered on the gulf shores be imperiled, but the lives and property of our people would be subjected to the same danger. Cuba is not only the key that locks and unlocks that door, but it is the fortress that defends it. Mr. Jefferson thought that our system of States was not complete without the addition of Cuba. He said "he had ever looked on Cuba as the most interesting addition that could ever be made" to our Union.

"The control," he said, "which, with Florida Point, this island would give us over the Gulf of Mexico and the country and isthmus bordering on it, as well as all those whose waters flow into it, would fill up the measure of our political well-being." His first interest was annexation; his second was the independence of Cuba; his third was that no country but Spain should ever acquire it. In writing to President Monroe in 1823, he said: "We will oppose with all our means the forcible interposition of any other power or auxiliary, stipendiary, or under any other form or pretext, and most especially their transfer to any power by conquest, cession or acquisition in any other way."

He was speaking of all the Spanish provinces in America, and the arguments applied with more force to Cuba than to all the rest together. Danger from European conquest of the extreme southern States of South America was only within the regions of possibility. Danger from the occupation of the northern States of South America or Central America was much more probable, but danger to us by such occupation of Cuba would be constant, imminent and great. Therefore it has been the settled policy of our country, of all parties, at all times, that that all-important key shoul' never pass out of the feeble hands of Spain to any other government except that of the United States. Jefferson, Gallatin, Adams, Clay, Van Buren, Forsyth, Webster, Crittenden, Buchanan and Marcy have all de clared the same doctrine. Many of our statesmen have advocated its annexation, many have opposed it, but all have agreed as with one voice that it should never go from Spain to any power except the United States. We have made the world understand that we would resist the transfer of that island with the whole armed power of the United States. We have so held for a hundred years, and we are ready today to redeem that pledge if any European power thinks proper to put us to the test.

Now I come to the point. If to protect our lives, our liberty, our institutions, our homes and families we have the right to control the destinies of the island of

Cuba, and if in the exercise of these rights we have fixed the destinies of the people of Cuba and delivered them forever into the hands of Spain, have we not assumed the duty of seeing that the lives, the liberties, the homes and families of Cuba are protected by Spain? We have denied to Cuba the right to better her condition by a change of connection. We claim the right for ourselves to institute such government as we may think most conducive to our happiness, but we deny that right to Cuba. If England should offer to take Cuba from under the despotism of Spain and give to her people the mild government she gives to Canada, we say, "You shall not go." If today the insurgents should abandon all hope of help from us and enter into negotiation with England, and England should stipulate with them that they should have a home government, with legislative, executive and judiciary branches chosen by the people of Cuba, with the power to lay and collect their own taxes, and that all her revenues should be expended at home, that England would only exercise the nominal sovereignty over Cuba that she does over Canada, do we not all know that the United States would forbid the contract, and, like a jailer, stand at the door of the Spanish dungeon and bid poor Cuba go back to the companionship of her chains?

If we have kept Cuba from going to France, if we have kept Cuba from going to England—and we have—and no man is so blind as not to know that within the



A NARROW STREET AND CATHEDRAL.

last one hundred years, if it had not been for the people of the United States asserting the superior right to control the destinies of that island, either England or France would have had it, and given it a better government than it has, and yet we have stood still and said: "You shall not go." If we intend to keep them within the sovereignty of Spain, is it not our moral duty to protect them and see that they are not destroyed by the government into whose hands we commit them?

I say again, that wherever there are rights there are corresponding duties, and I say the people of the United States owe it to the oppressed and downtrodden people of Cuba to say to Spain: "The time has come when you must take your heel off the necks of the people of Cuba. We are responsible for their slavery; we are responsible for the despotism in that island; we are responsible for every drop of blood that you shed; we are responsible for every dollar's worth of property that your mercenaries have stolen; our consciences and our character as a people are involved in this crime. Cuba has a right to appeal to us, and we intend that you shall give her just government."

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The day will come when the American conscience will again be quickened. The day will come when this mighty people will see and feel that the guilt for the wrongs and oppressions of the people of Cuba is upon their hands and souls. When it comes, and come it

will, and come it must, the nation will arouse itself like a strong man after sleep, and it will fill these seats with Senators and the seats of the other House with members who will say to Spain: "Give to these people just government, or we will."

What sort of a government does Spain give to Cuba? The taxation imposed, not by the people of Cuba, but by the people of Spain, takes from the people of Cuba nearly \$50,000,000 a year. Have you stopped to inquire what a monstrous iniquity this is? The whole annual produce of all the labor in Cuba does not exceed \$250,000,000, and one-fifth of that is taken every year by Spain. These immense exactions are extorted from the people of Cuba to pay the army that crushes out their life on the land, and the navy that guards the shores so that no relief can come and no victim escape.

In a very able article in one of the leading papers of Texas, I see the different items of expenditure given, and the sum total is \$48,000,000 in one year; and yet there are comparatively no schools; 75 per cent. of the entire population can neither read nor write. There are no roads, bridges, or ferries; no public buildings; nothing but despotism and desolation, and that by the authority of the United States! Besides the enormous and exhausting taxation, the plunder of the people is without a parallel in history. One of the prominent Spanish officers now in Cuba with a military command said in the Congress of Deputies, March 2, 1890, that

the frauds, thefts and misappropriations of money by the officers sent out from Spain to govern Cuba amounted to \$40,000,000! Forty millions wrung from a million and one-half of people is a monumental robbery. Taxes by duties on imports are levied in Spain for Cuba, and levied so as to enrich not the Cubans, but the Spaniards in Spain. The tax on flour is levied enormously high to keep out the flour of the United States and compel Cubans to import Spanish flour, and on that was so high a duty that bread costs twenty-five cents a pound. And the starving people complain to us that bread is a luxury in Cuba, and yet we say that Cuba shall not leave Spain! Why should not the people of Cuba have a government of their own? Why should not the question of taxation be placed in the hands of representatives of the people who pay the taxes?

For what did our fathers fight in 1776? One of our greatest statesmen has said that our Revolution was fought on a preamble. We had suffered no despotism. We declared that taxation and representation should go together. Such has been our fundamental principle ever since. The taxpayers, through their representatives, must vote the taxes under our government. But under the despotic barbarism we have forced on the people of Cuba the amount of taxes is prescribed by the tax receiver. It was said here the other day that Cuba had thirty representatives in the Cortes of Spain,

while Spain has 700 representatives. How are these thirty so-called representatives chosen? Twenty thousand Spanish merchants and manufacturers in Cuba elect twenty-seven representatives, while 90,000 Cuban farmers elect three representatives, and several hundred thousand Cuban male adults are disfranchised. But if the Cuban people elected the whole thirty, what protection would that give to Cuban taxpayers in a body of more than 700 Spanish representatives? What they require for their protection is a government of Cubans for Cuba. No power has the right to impose taxes on the people of Cuba but themselves. Spanish taxation for Cuba makes flour so dear that Cubans only consume fifty-four pounds per head per year, while Spanish taxation on the Spanish people in Spain is so light that in Spain the people consume 400 pounds per head per year. If the people wish to meet and humbly petition the military commander who has them in his keeping for more bread or for more mercy, they must first obtain a permit. Without it no meeting can be held, and even with it under the supervision of a deputy sent by the commander.

And we are guarding the brutal monsters while they are carrying on their iniquity.

I want to call the attention of the American people to some of the enormities committed by Spanish officials in their treatment of the people of Cuba. In the former revolution, from 1868 to 1878, the conduct of

Spain was precisely what it is now. On the 4th of April, 1869, Valmaseda issued an order, from which I read the following items:

First. Every man from the age of fifteen years upward found out of his house who cannot give a good reason for it will be shot.

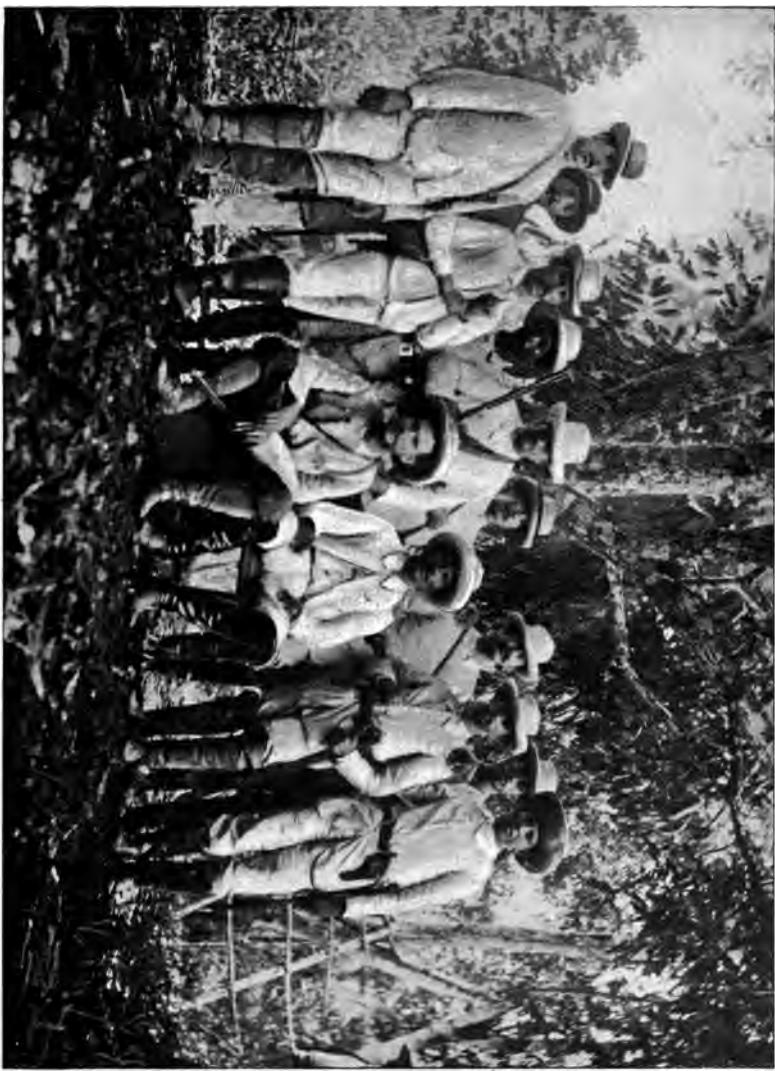
Second. Every unoccupied house will be burned by the troops.

Third. Every house without a white flag, which is the signal that its inhabitants desire peace, will be reduced to ashes.

Women that are not living at their homes or at the houses of their relatives will be gathered either at the town of Jiguaini or in that of Bayamo, where food will be provided for them. Those who do not present themselves will be brought by force.

When Mr. Fish, our Secretary of State, read the brutal order, he wrote to the Spanish minister at Washington: "In the interest of Christian civilization and common humanity, I hope that this document is a forgery." But it was not. It was genuine. This exterminating policy was continued, and in 1871 President Grant said to the same minister that the "atrocities" inflicted in Cuba had turned the whole country against Spain to such a degree that the people were scarcely capable of judging impartially any longer. But all such remonstrances were lost on Spain. One of her captains of volunteers says in one of his reports:

More than 300 spies and conspirators are shot monthly in this jurisdiction. Myself alone, with my company, have already killed nine, and I will never be weary of killing.



GEN. JOSE MACEO AND STAFF.

Another captain of volunteers reports:

We have captured seventeen, thirteen of whom were shot outright. On dying, they shouted, "Hurrah for free Cuba! Hurrah for independence!" * * * On the following day, we killed a Cuban officer and another man. Among the thirteen we shot the first day were found three sons and their fathers; the fathers witnessed the execution of their sons without even changing color, and when their turn came, they said they died for the independence of their country.

In a letter of one of the officers of the Spanish army, he says:

Not a single Cuban will remain on this island, because we shoot all those we find in the fields, on their farms and in every hovel. * * * We do not leave a creature alive where we pass, be it man or animal. If we find cows, we kill them; if horses, ditto; if hogs, ditto; men, women or children, ditto. As to the houses, we burn them. So everyone receives what he deserves—the men with bullets, the animals with the bayonet. The island will remain a desert.

During that revolution, a Spanish newspaper in Barcelona published the following proceedings of a military tribunal in Cuba:

General Staff of the Captain-Generalship of the Island of Cuba:

The court-martial sitting at this place on this day, with the object of examining and passing an opinion about the process against the civilian Jose Valder Nodorce, who uttered seditious words, has condemned him to six years' hard labor and with irons, and his excellency, in hearing the opinion of the auditor, has approved the judgment, but not without remarking his great mildness, because it is not in accord with regulations, codes and existing laws, and for that reason he

has ordered that the president and members of the military court be sent to a castle for two months as a punishment for it.

Published by order of his excellency.

Six years at hard labor for uttering seditious words was a punishment so mild that the court was sentenced to two months' confinement as a punishment for their clemency! And this almost within sight of our shores, and backed by the authority of the United States! I read another extract. It is given to the public by Mr. Quesada, the representative of the Cuban people here. He is a gentleman whose veracity is not questioned. Here is an incident of that war as related by him:

During the last war General Weyler did not distinguish himself by military exploits. As a soldier, he was an obscure commander of a column. His operations were in the territories of Camaguey and Tunis. His reputation is based on his atrocities. "The dance at Guaimaro" is famous in Puerto Principe. He captured a number of ladies of the best society of this province. They were taken to the village of Guaimaro. Around a large bonfire in the centre of the public square he placed the defenseless women. The ferocious hordes of negroes who composed the Fourth Company of his command were ordered to violently undress the prisoners. Then they played an African dance, and the unfortunate Cubans who refused to participate were whipped by Weyler himself!

But even worse than the foregoing was the crime committed by Weyler on Senorita Romero. She was captured with her mother. Weyler ordered the latter to propose to her daughter the sacrifice to him of her honor and virtue. The distracted mother, under threats of death, entreated in vain with the young woman.

Colonel Weyler offered this dilemma: The señorita must choose between him and the black soldiers of the already famous and sadly celebrated Fourth Company. Señorita Romero did not vacillate. She indignantly exclaimed: "Between you, monster, and the Fourth Company I do not hesitate. Give me up to the Fourth Company!" Can Mr. Dupuy de Lome or Weyler deny this when Cruz solemnly declares: "In 1889, in a house at Nuevitas, thin and emaciated as a specter, her hair white, a complete wreck, an idiot, I saw the sad victim of that infamy!"

How proud we must be as American citizens to stand guard over that atrocious villain who is again in Cuba in his work of death and desolation, but who would not be there today if the United States would draw her sword, as it is her duty to do. If we will not permit England, France or Germany to extricate these wretched and persecuted people from the clutches of Spain, our honor demands that we shall do it ourselves. With what lofty pride our American mothers, wives and daughters must look upon the enrapturing scene of a Spanish bullfighter at the head of a horde of armed brigands demanding of a helpless, innocent girl to decide between her life and her honor! How their eyes must burn with onwonted brightness and their cheeks suffuse with glow and gratified pride when they look on Weyler, with the Stars and Stripes above his head and falling in rich folds around his shoulders, and the royal bird of Jove fanning his cheeks with the feathers of his outstretched wings, while he bids an innocent girl to choose between his and the embraces of his brutal

minions. How proud must all our men be, sons of the sires who hung that standard in the storms of a hundred battles, who saw it ride in triumph on lands and lakes and oceans, and never once did the smell of the stain of dishonor rest within its folds, now see it guarding the wretch who slaughters unarmed men, violates unprotected women, and gives their homes to the flames and their flesh to the eagles. Oh, Columbia, gem of the ocean, your children have boasted of their civilization, their freedom, their prowess! How is the mighty fallen, the strong staff broken and the beautiful rod! Columbia, the mighty God who called thee out of the deep, placed in your hands the burning brand to enlighten the world and lead its downtrodden humanity to higher and better altitudes. You were never intended for a jailer. Your fair waist was never designed to be encircled by the belt of a Spanish bull-fighter, nor your fair hands to carry the keys of Spanish dungeons, where victims of despotism were loaded with chains because, taught by your precepts and example, they aspired to climb to the mountain tops where you stood.

I feel as an American citizen. There is not a drop of Spanish blood in my veins. I speak for liberty, I speak for the right, and I feel and speak for the honor of my country. We hold Cuba in vassalage to Spain. For a hundred years we have declared, and reiterated the declaration, that Cuba shall stay under the domin-

ion of Spain. We have shut in her face the door of hope for release from that despotism, and, having the responsibility which even an equitable right would give, we should demand of Spain that just government should be given to Cuba. If necessary, we should enforce the demand with the whole military strength of the nation. Suppose the suffering people of Cuba should say to us: "You have forsaken us; we have appealed to you time and again. Every generation that has come from the womb has appealed to you, and gone down to the grave marked by Spanish blood and dishonor. So farewell; we are going now to appeal to England; she will give us the mild government she gives to Canada. She will let us govern ourselves in all our domestic affairs—she will let us raise what taxes we are willing to pay and expend our revenues on educating our children and building up our country, and protect us against invasion from Spain or any other power." What would be our response? What has for a century been our response? Columbia would come out with her mighty heart throbbing, her flags flying and her drums beating, and answer in tones of thunder: "England shall not assume sovereign rights over one square foot of Cuba. We will see that Spain keeps Cuba against all the world except ourselves." Then if we have fixed the destiny of Cuba, we owe it to our own honor, we owe it to humanity, to protect the



MANTANZAS AND YUMURI RIVER.

wretched and misgoverned people of that island against Spanish barbarity.

The other day I read in the press dispatches from Cuba where a Spanish column, after having an engagement with the troops under Maceo's command, attacked a house where a father, a daughter and an infant were sheltered. The father stepped out with his child in his arms, and cried, "Stop firing; we are peaceful citizens;" but they drew nearer, took deadlier aim, shot to death the father and the child. The daughter sprang forward to protect her wounded father and to plead for her own life. The appeal was answered by shots from the rifles and thrusts from their bayonets, and the girl fell on the dead body of her father and brother, riddled with bullets and gashed with bayonets. This is the kind of government Spain is giving to Cuba. It is the protection that the hawk gives to the dove, the panther to the hind. And all this is by the authority of the United States! We stand guard over Spain while she tears Cuba limb from limb, while the victim is crying to us to deliver her from the jaws of the monster.

While thinking of the slaughter of this girl who attempted to save her father, there comes up in my mind the recollection of an incident that occurred in Alabama during our civil war. A colonel of an Ohio regiment was in command of a district in North Alabama within whose lines the family of a Confederate officer resided. Sometimes the bold rebel would slip through

the lines undiscovered and visit his family. On one occasion he was discovered by some one more devoted to the Union than to his personal welfare. Information was given to the colonel commanding the district, who took a half-dozen of his men, and under cover of night went to the house to capture his Confederate foe-man. Arriving at the house, he rushed in the door, pistol in hand, and found the Confederate soldier in the midst of his family, his pistol and belt lying upon the bureau and within reach of his daughter, a beautiful Confederate girl of eighteen summers. In an instant she grasped her father's pistol to shoot in defense of her father's person. The colonel sprang forward, seized the pistol in her hand to disarm her. Not being a Spaniard, it never entered his mind to shoot her. In the struggle, her pistol fired, and she was shot through the hand, but her father succeeded in making his escape. The gallant officer returned in a few days to see about that wounded hand. He came again to express his profound regrets for that wound, and again and again to hope for its early recovery. He did not stop coming till he carried that hand off with him and clasped it in his. It is his hand now and has been for thirty years. Around that family hearthstone there stands a group of noble sons, half Yankee, half rebel, but all Americans. We did not shoot women and children. We did not shoot prisoners in our great civil war.

In my own good State of Texas—a State that drank of the cup of Spanish barbarity to the dregs in its early history—there occurred during our civil war another incident that shows the difference between Spanish and Anglo-Saxon civilization. The island of Galveston had been occupied by the troops of the United States, and the *Harriet Lane*, a United States man-of-war, laid at her wharf. The officer in command of the Department of Texas at Houston got one or two old steam-boats that were laid up out of reach of the enemy, put cotton bales around them, and mounted on them such guns as he could procure, and moved down to attack the enemy's navy with his, and at the same time threw troops across the bridge on the island and attacked and captured the garrison; at the same time, with his improvised fleet, he attacked, boarded and captured the *Harriet Lane*. Young Lea, the commander of the *Harriet Lane*, fought gallantly, and fell on the quarter-deck of his vessel, vainly struggling to hold it. When the battle was over, we did not cut off his head and stick it on a pole and parade the streets with it as the Spaniards did their victims in Cuba. Gentle hands shrouded the young soldier. He was taken to the cemetery where the fathers of the city slept. His remains were followed to the grave by the whole people. His father read the burial service of the church, to which they both belonged and into which the young officer had been baptized when a child in his father's

arms. We laid him in a hero's grave, we covered him with flowers that were wet with the tears of kindred and friends, and left him alone in his glory. Never in that great conflict, where more than 2,000,000 of men were engaged for four years in the most desperate struggle that ever occurred in the annals of mankind, did either side ever commit one such act of cruelty as is now being enacted every day in Cuba.

This is the same old story. I could read you instance after instance of barbarism in Cuba; but it would be but the repetition of Spanish history—the same old story that we have heard from the days of Charles V, when the printing press came and light began to diffuse itself and knowledge began to be gathered and stored. Spain tried to crush it out and extinguish the light by military violence. You all remember the history of Luther, who began the Reformation by teaching the Germans that justification came by faith. Charles V had him summoned to Worms to answer to him for this mortal offense. He presided over that august assembly, then the most powerful monarch on the globe. He called on Luther to retract his heresies, which he refused to do, saying he would only retract when his judgment was convinced by reason.

We all remember the history of the poor Netherlands. They had recovered their land from the sea by building dikes, and the Spaniards overflowed their

lands with blood as the sea had theretofore done by water. Finding it almost hopeless to contend against them and to save their country from the butchery, torture and flame of the Spaniard, they stood upon the dikes, spade in hand, and said: "If you continue this persecution, if we cannot live in this country, we will cut these dikes and bring back again the sea over us all, and, vanquished and victor, we will go together to the throne of God to plead our cause."

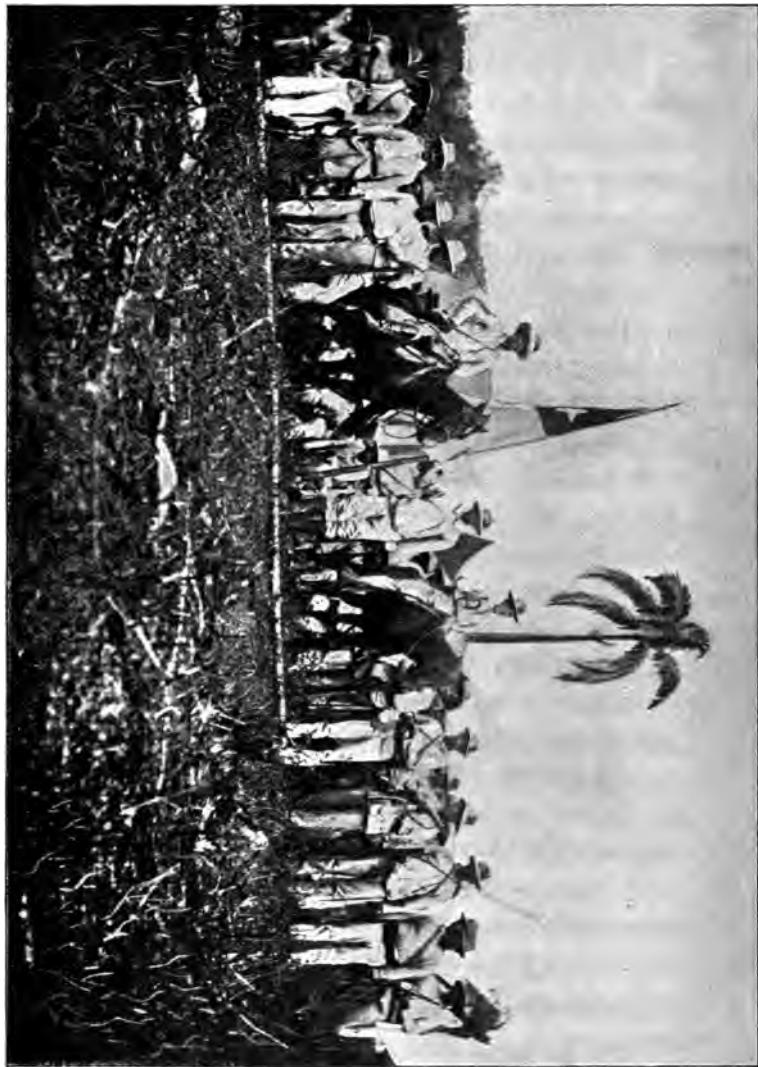
What was the history of Spain in her American provinces? Did her treatment of her subjects change? We were boys once; our heads are now gray; but I can remember when I was a boy reading a little poem and perhaps reciting it at school:

When Cortez came with sword and flame,
With one fell blow proud Mexico,
Was humbled to the dust.

Sword and flame! Not the flame of the intellect, not the flame of truth, not the flame of knowledge, not enlightenment and elevation of character, but the flame of fire that extinguishes and burns the fagots beneath the feet of victims.

She desolated Mexico under Cortez, Peru under Pizarro, and when, in vain, after a long tenure she found herself utterly incapable of holding those provinces, and when the United States stood with a brandished and flaming sword and said to all Europe, "You shall not interfere to help Spain recover them," then

ENCAMPMENT OF GENERAL MACEO.



the whole power of her concentrated despotism fell upon poor Cuba. In 1825, an order or decree issued from the government of Spain appointing a governor for Cuba and giving him all the powers of a governor of a besieged city. Martial law was given to Cuba in 1825, and martial law has been the inheritance of poor Cuba from 1825 to 1895. For threescore and ten years that prostrate island has been crushed, bleeding, starving, rising in insurrection, the people lifting their appeal to God to smile on their cause and give them deliverance, and appealing to the United States for help. And yet at every moment of that time we have stood upon the dark doorways to Spanish dungeons with American bayonets and American flags flying over them, refusing them succor, and yet holding them in subjection to Spain.

We have a duty, a holy duty, and if we think God will not call us to account for the manner in which we have refused to discharge that duty to those people, we must believe that there are crimes and sins that can be perpetrated in this world which can go without an atoning sacrifice. The blood of innocence and the demands of justice will speak after a while. He who sees the sparrow fall will open the eyes that never sleep. He will open the ears that are never deaf. He will treasure up the wrongs of Cuba, and after a while—

Eternal justice wakes, and in their turn
The vanquished triumph and the victors mourn.

We have had something to do with Spanish history in the State of which I am a citizen and where I have lived since a boy. We have gone through all of this history. After 1824, when Mexico had achieved her independence and made her free constitution, copying closely that of the United States, a Spanish dictator, Santa Anna, trod that constitution beneath his feet. With his armed soldiery, he marched over Mexico, beat down her armies—for he was a military genius—and not only captured them, but butchered them, and not only butchered them, but went to the cities that sympathized with the republican government of Mexico and butchered men, women and children.

In 1836, he came to Texas on his mission of death. He came with a sword of flame, as Cortez had gone to Mexico in 1525, but he found a different kind of material from that which Cortez had to contend. For a while, fortune seemed to smile on him. He entered San Antonio and stormed and took the little garrison in the Alamo, and put to the sword every living thing within its walls except one woman and one little female child. They, too, would have been slain, but they were covered by the dead bodies of the soldiers who had fallen in defense of the garrison. True to Spanish instinct, Santa Anna went about among the bodies of the slain and sent his dagger to the hilt in the bosoms of its heroes. From San Antonio, flushed with victory, on the 6th of March, 1836, the invaders went to Goliad.

On his way, he encountered Fannin, with a handful of brave men from Texas, Georgia and Alabama. Though far inferior in number, they challenged his advance, and beat him till their ammunition was exhausted, and then capitulated. They were to be sent back home to Georgia and Alabama. But on Sunday, the 27th of March, when the Sabbath bells were ringing all over the home land, when friends and loved ones in that home were wending their way to their places of worship, the Spaniard was conducting his victims to the place of slaughter.

The little band under Shackelford were young men from Alabama. An old soldier of the republic of Texas told me many years ago the story of that massacre as it was given to him by Shackelford himself. He said he was a practicing physician in Alabama, and determined to raise some men and go and help Texas. His son was in his party, and his patrons and friends gave him their sons upon the condition that he would treat them as he treated his own son. He accepted the trust. When the battle was fought and lost, Shackelford, who was a skillful surgeon, attended the wounded Mexicans and rendered to them valuable services. For this he was informed that he could have the life of his son; all the others would be shot. He went to his son and said: "I have accepted all your comrades upon the terms that I would treat each of them as I would treat my own son. Your comrades are ordered to be shot. Your

life is offered to me, but I cannot accept it without betraying my word. I will leave it to you to decide for yourself." The gallant young hero instantly spurned the proposition, and said he would die with his comrades. They were all young men of education. Many of them played well upon musical instruments, and all sang. Before the fatal order was executed, they took their harps, violins and flutes, some played and others sang that sad but soul-stirring song of John Howard Payne:

Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us there,
Which sought through the world is ne'er met with elsewhere.

In a few moments more, their voices were still and their harps were songless and silent. At last they were all at home—not the homes they had left in Alabama and Georgia, and to which the Spaniard had promised they should soon return, but they were at that far-away home "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

After the slaughter, there bodies were gathered in funeral piles, covered with brush and set on fire, and wolves and dogs and hogs fed upon such as the fire had failed to consume. On to the east the victors pushed their columns, till on the 21st of April the last hope of Texas, an army of 783 men, stood with their back against the San Jacinto river. It was the last intrench-

ment of liberty, and that day was to decide whether it was to be the birth or burial of the republic. To enter the arena where Texas waited him, he had to cross a stream spanned by a bridge, which, when crossed, Houston had destroyed behind him, so that there was no escape for either army. Excelling Houston more than two to one, he was confident of victory, and as the sun passed the meridian he laid down to enjoy his siesta and dreams of ultimate victory and the slaughter of the vanquished. While he was sleeping, gently sleeping, the soft Southern winds passing over vast fields of flowers drank up their odors and poured their rich perfumes through his camp; the feathered choristers of bright plumage sang in the branches of the evergreen oaks that bent over him. While he slept, Houston moved cautiously among his devoted braves, told them the bridge was gone, then "Be men, be freemen, that your children may praise their father's name. Remember the Alamo!" At 3 o'clock in the evening, he moved forward to the battle. As he was advancing, he told the musicians to play a piece that he named—a piece that he thought suitable to the occasion and in harmony with their feelings. * * *

It was a Texan army, as brave, as determined, as patriotic as the gray-bearded grenadiers that carried the victorious lilies of France from the Pillars of Hercules on the west to the mountains of Judea on the east, and from the pyramids of Egypt on the south to the



GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S PALACE.

snow-covered steppes of Russia on the north. The occasion demanded not the sonorous blast of the trumpet, but the soft, sweet notes of the lute. The song they sang was a warm, cordial invitation:

Will you come to the bower I have shaded for you?
Your bed shall be roses all spangled with dew.

They came, and a great many of them are there yet. When the battle was over, one-half of the enemy were dead on the field and the other prisoners begging for that mercy they never gave but received from those whose homes they had destroyed and whose comrades they had put to the sword. When the sun set on that eventful day and the stars began to light their lamps in the skies, lo! in the southwestern heavens there appeared one that moved forward, till it stood over the field of San Jacinto and burned on with ever-increasing brilliancy as the representative of the new-born republic of Texas.

When I came to Congress in 1873, twenty-three years ago, before I was sworn in I read the news of the capture of the steamer *Virginius* and the butchery of fifty-three of the persons taken on her decks. The vessel had been engaged in carrying arms and supplies to the insurrectionists in Cuba. She was regularly documented as a vessel of the United States. Over her decks floated the flag of the United States. Everyone on the boat was entitled to the protection of the laws of

the United States. She was run down on the high seas and captured by a Spanish armed vessel and carried into Santiago on the 3d of November, 1873. At 6 o'clock next morning four of her passengers were shot. An officer of the British schooner *Brillante*, who witnessed the execution, says:

The executioners demanded that these victims should kneel and be shot in the back. Two of them so knelt and were so shot. The other two, Verona and Ryan, refused to kneel, and were thrown down and handcuffed while begging their executioners to let them die standing. A Spanish officer stepped forward and thrust his sword through Ryan's heart. Verona died easily. Then down upon their corpses, still warm with life, came the bloodthirsty mob, severing their heads from their bodies, placing them on pikes and marching with them through the city.

Forty-nine others were shot to death on the 7th and 8th of November. And the great achievement was celebrated with bonfires and bullfights over the island. Ryan was a gallant Union soldier from New York. Frye, the captain of the vessel, was a Confederate from Louisiana. These fifty-three persons on the decks of an American vessel were tried at night before a military tribunal. They were not permitted to be present and defend themselves. They had violated no law of Spain. Reverdy Johnson, one of the ablest lawyers in the United States, said:

Her capture was as gross a disregard of the authority of the United States as if the Tornado had seized her in the harbor of New York. If he said the vessel had vio-

lated the neutrality laws of the United States, Spain could take no cognizance of it.

The United States alone could do that, but the United States did nothing but enter into a long diplomatic correspondence, and came out of the controversy covered with disgrace. Frye was refused permission to apply to the United States consul for the protection of the men on his boat. When they were marched to execution, they were carried past the United States consul's office—his flag not even flying. He did not dare to put it up, and his doomed fellow-countrymen bowed their heads to the bare flagstaff and "waived a mournful good-bye."

After Frye was condemned, they for the first time permitted him to come before the military tribunal. He asked permission to go, not to plead for his life, but for the lives of some of his crew. In that appeal, he says:

I do not come here to plead for my own life. You have condemned me. I do not ask you for my life.

It has been notorious that a great number of vessels were engaged in it [blockade running] during the American war, and notwithstanding many prizes were taken not a single life was sacrificed.

What a high tribute this to the Union army and to the Union people by a Confederate soldier! A citizen of Louisiana, a Confederate, says to the Spaniards:

The country against which I fought and the people against whom I fought, the country that triumphed over me, never perpetrated in one single instance what

you do in every instance. On the contrary, the greater part of the prisoners were liberated after a short imprisonment.

Of the law in Cuba and the proclamation referring to the introduction of arms into Cuba I had not heard until the night of my conviction. If with superior opportunities I was ignorant of a case decided by other than international law, how completely ignorant should be these poor people? I was continually in the company of persons who ought to have known it, yet the fact was never once alluded to. In a word, I believe that they were ignorant, and that the world will be grievously surprised to know that their lives are sacrificed. The council well know that I am not pleading for my life; I have neither home nor country—a victim of war and persecution—I being shut out from the road to prosperity until I am unable to provide bread for my wife and seven children, who know what it is to suffer from the vicissitudes of my life. My life is one of suffering, and it is not for myself that I implore.

* * * * *

Spaniards, as I believe I am the only one who will die in the embrace of our holy religion, consider the souls of these poor people. Give them time and opportunity to seek the mercy of God. Thus only can you comply with your duty, and my blood ought to be sufficient. These poor men had no knowledge of their crime.

Was not that a magnificent appeal to make? Heroic and noble, he refused to ask from those bloody butchers his own life. He had violated no law for which they could punish him, and, as he said, no one in our great conflict had ever been punished for running a blockade. The vessel would be condemned as a

prize, the property would be taken, but the people that were on it would be treated as prisoners in civilized war.

But the Spaniards did not turn any loose. They butchered all of them. Our consul, when he found the boat had come in, interceded with the butcher Burriel. I perhaps ought to ask pardon from some of our people who think that I am too harsh in speaking of this "proud and sensitive people." Here was a butcher, and as soon as the vessel came in the American consul asked permission of Burriel to see his countrymen before anything was done. He sent a dispatch to the consul at Jamaica, informing him of these facts, and Burriel, the general in command, suppressed it, and admits that he suppressed it, and would not permit it to go until those people were all tried and slaughtered.

* * * * *

What did the American people do about that? Everybody knows very well that Spain had no right to stop that vessel on the high seas. General Grant said so. General Grant's cabinet said so in 1871 when the question was brought before them whether the people of the United States had not a right to ship arms and munitions of war to insurgents anywhere. It was a matter that was referred to the cabinet. * * *

It was unanimously decided by his whole cabinet that no nation had a right to arrest that vessel on the high seas. Neither Spain nor any other country on the face of the earth could go behind the papers that accredited

the vessel; that they were conclusive; it was American soil, and American authority granted the right of security to everyone on its decks. And yet I say, with shame, that we permitted that butchery to go almost unchallenged. There was a long list of correspondence, amounting to some hundred or two papers, back and forth, and a little milk-and-water agreement between Mr. Fish and Mr. Barnaby, the minister of Spain, that the guilty party should be brought to justice and tried. They had a tribunal arranged in Spain to try Burriel, and after a long correspondence running through three or four years, the government of the United States was notified that the tribunal was organized, that it took jurisdiction, and that the government of Spain could do no more. The court could do with him as they please. The result was, Burriel died a natural death and was never brought to trial at all. And for fifty-three people butchered on the decks of that vessel, rightfully claiming the protection of the United States, the great body of them American citizens, after a long controversy Spain paid \$77,000, about \$1500 apiece.

Now, look upon this picture and upon this, Hyperion to a satyr. At Salonica, in 1876, while this correspondence was going on, a Greek girl was taken from some Mussulmans. The German consul and the French consul rushed into the street where there was a mob attempting to carry her away, to plead for the girl

and protect her if possible. They were cut down and stabbed to death in the streets. The Turkish government, without waiting for any invitation from Germany or France, telegraphed over the wires that they would punish those people, that it was unauthorized, and offered to do everything.

Did France enter into a long correspondence running through five or six years? Did Germany do it? They did not even deign to answer the telegram, but each one ordered its fleets to Salonica, landed its marines on the shore, and compelled the government of Turkey to bring the guilty wretches before them, and under the muzzles of their guns they shot to death six of these perpetrators, and then said: "Pay \$100,000 to the family of each one of these persons and I leave you," and it was done.

That brings me to the last question to consider in this case. Why is it that in the latter years of our government every time we attempt to maintain the honor, the dignity and the respect of our people, some tremendous power commences to manifest itself in secret and in quiet, and we hear all sorts of objections except the real one? In the revolution of 1868-1878, they said that Spain had just thrown off the monarchy and bloomed out into a republic, and we will do great damage to republican government—such as we have instituted in this country is felt all over the world—if we talk plainly to Spain. "Remember," they said before,

"Castellar is very proud and sensitive. Do not wound his feelings."

The blood of our citizens butchered by Spain is crying from the earth to us, and I for one am for calling her to account, and if her pride is wounded by our demand for proper treatment from her, she may fret till her proud heart breaks.

We hear now the same old plea. Spain is even vindicated here. With the atrocities of 300 years piled up against her, her cause is espoused and boldly defended. We are told that the insurgents are ungrateful to Spain. When generation after generation of Cubans have been sent to bloody graves by her hand it is ungrateful even to remonstrate.

It is our duty to protect those people, or say to England, France, Russia and any others: "If you want that island, take it; we have nothing to say about it." But as long as we say to all the earth, "You shall not touch it; it belongs to Spain, and we will keep it in the hands of Spain," then I say that an awful load of guilt is rolled upon our souls, and we, to whom the honor of our country and our people are entrusted, must stand as Americans, and we must say to Spain: "You shall give that island self-government, or we will." Poor old Oliver Goldsmith said a long time ago:

Honor fails where commerce long prevails

The right to receive a cargo and make \$100,000 on it, and the right to send out a cargo and make \$100,000 on it; these are the things that are now poking their heads up all over this country and pleading against "jingoism." I received a letter this morning from New York. "Another fool," the writer says, "has turned jingo." He asks, "Could you not have left this jingoism to Lodge and Chandler and Sherman? What did you go into it for?" and he signs himself "A Disgusted Democrat." If I had one of the cathode rays, and could put it into his pocket, I would find sugar stock. No man who ever felt the honor of country touch his heart, no man who ever felt a feeling of humanity animate his bosom, in a time of this sort—when innocent women and girls and children are lifting their piteous hands and appealing to the government that makes these things possible—could ever send such a message as that to a member of Congress.

I believe, as I said a while ago, that the hour is drawing nigh when guiltless blood shall penetrate the sky. I believe that the day is not very far off when the American people will see this as they saw that other slavery. I believe the day is approaching rapidly when the American conscience will stand up full armed and equipped, and fill the Senate and the House and the Executive Mansion with men who will say to Spain: "This thing must stop. We will take that island from you. We will give to the people of Cuba the power to

organize a government coming from the consent of the governed, the same sort of government that we have. We demand that they shall have the inalienable right."

Our fathers said that everybody had the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and they said they had a right to institute government such as they might think proper that would secure those rights. Yet we stand in the way and prevent those poor people from instituting any government of their own. They plead, and in agony groan and lift their piteous appeal to us, and their cries die on the air while we are the most powerful military people in the world, and the most advanced in civilization. We are right at their door. We have this little ewe lamb in our bosom that God has put here and made us the guardians for its protection. We have assumed that duty, and we still see her day by day and year by year tortured upon the rack.

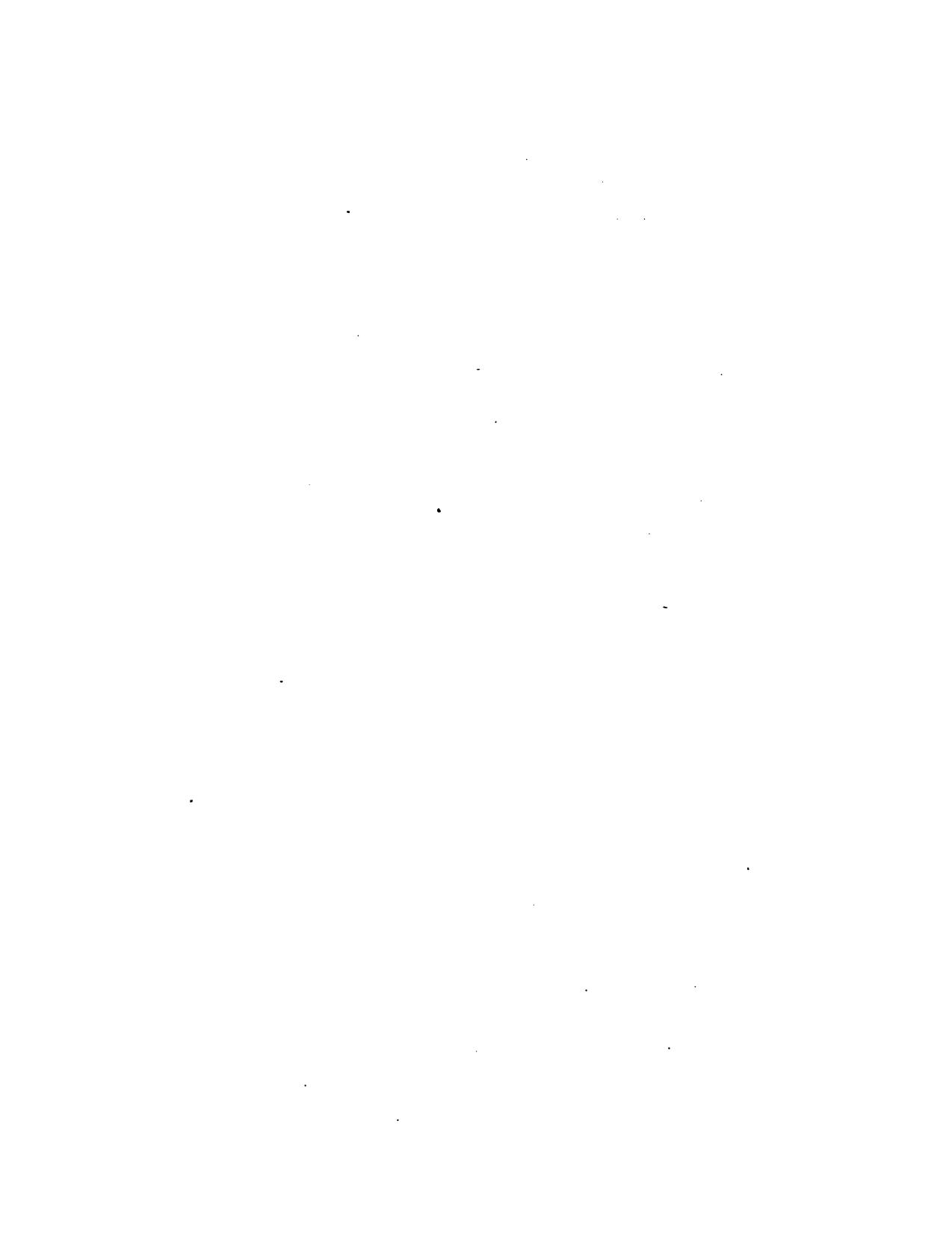
The day is coming when Cuba shall arise and when there will be a voice that will speak to her like the voice of the apostle who saw the poor man lying at the beautiful gate to ask for alms, and an invalid from his birth, begging alms of those who passed by him.. The apostle told him he had no money; he could give no alms, but he gave that which was better. He said, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

Here is another poor beggar lying at the beautiful

gate, lying at the gate of the fortress that guards the rights and liberties and safety of the American people; she has been lying there for a century lifting up her shrunken hands and hollow cheeks and crying with salty tears to us, "Help us, oh help us to get out of this dungeon!" The American people will say after a while, in the name of the mighty republic, "Arise to your feet and walk." She will extend to the poor mendicant her powerful right arm and lift her to her feet and enable her to stand.

A great many of our fathers have wanted and longed for the annexation of Cuba, a great many others have not, but they have all agreed that Cuba should never go to a power that was strong enough to imperil our rights and liberties. They have all agreed that she shall be under our protection. I am not asking for the annexation of Cuba, and I am not longing for her admission as a State into our Union. I would say to Spain: "You can give her local self-government, you can keep your paramount sovereignty over her; but you must protect her people and give them the power to control their domestic affairs. If you do not do it, then I will take possession of the island, and with the armed forces of the United States I will see that they have the opportunity to organize a government and arm themselves for its security, and I will hold it until they are able to stand alone."

APPENDIX.



APPENDIX.

Official Report of the Court of Inquiry Which Investigated the Maine Disaster.

Washington, March 28.—The following is the full text of the report of the court of inquiry:

"U. S. S. Iowa, First Rate.

"Key West, Fla., Monday, March 21, 1898.

"After full and mature consideration of all the testimony before it, the court finds as follows:

"First—That the United States battleship Maine arrived in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, on January 25, 1898, and was taken to buoy No. 4, in from five and a-half to six fathoms of water by the regular government pilot. The United States consul-general at Havana had notified the authorities at that place the previous evening of the intended arrival of the Maine.

"Second—The state of discipline on board the Maine was excellent, and all orders and regulations in regard to the care and safety of the ship were strictly carried out. All ammunition was stowed in accordance with prescribed instructions, and proper care was taken whenever ammunition was handled. Nothing was stowed in any one of the magazines or shellrooms which was not permitted to be stowed there.

THE MAGAZINES AND SHELLROOMS.

"The magazines and shellrooms were always locked after having been opened; and after the destruction of the Maine the keys were found in their proper place in the Captain's

cabinet, everything having been reported secure that evening at 8 P. M. The temperature of the magazines and shellrooms was taken daily and reported. The only magazine which had an undue amount of heat was the after ten-inch magazine, and that did not explode at the time the Maine was destroyed. The torpedo war heads were all stowed in the after part of the ship, under the wardroom, and neither caused nor participated in the destruction of the Maine.

"The dry gun cotton primers and detonators were stowed in the cabin aft, and remote from the scene of the explosion. Waste was carefully looked after on board the Maine to obviate danger. Special orders in regard to this had been given by the commanding officer. Varnishes, dryers, alcohol and others combustibles of this nature were stowed on or above the main deck, and could not have had anything to do with the destruction of the Maine. The medical stores were stowed aft, under the wardroom, and remote from the scene of the explosion. No dangerous stores of any kind were stowed below in any of the other storerooms.

CONDITION OF THE COAL BUNKERS.

"The coal bunkers were inspected daily. Of those bunkers adjacent to the forward magazines and shellrooms, four were empty, namely, 'B 3, B 4, B 5, B 6.' 'A 15' had been in use that day, and 'A 16' was full of New River coal. This coal had been carefully inspected before receiving on board. The bunker in which it was stowed was accessible on three sides at all times, and the fourth side at this time, on account of bunkers 'B 4' and 'B 6' being empty. This bunker, 'A 16,' had been inspected that day by the engineer officer on duty. The fire-alarms in the bunkers were in working order, and there had never been a case of spontaneous combustion of coal on board the Maine.

"The two after boilers of the ship were in use at the time of the disaster, but for auxiliary purposes only, with a comparatively low pressure of steam, and being tended by a reliable watch. These boilers could not have caused the explo-

sion of the ship. The four forward boilers have since been found by the divers and are in a fair condition.

"The finding of the court of inquiry was reached after twenty-three days of continuous labor, on the 21st of March instant, and having been approved on the 22d by the commander-in-chief of the United States naval force on the North Atlantic station was transmitted to the Executive.

THE SHIP REPORTED SECURE.

"On the night of the destruction of the Maine everything had been reported secure for the night at 8 P. M. by reliable persons, through the proper authorities, to the commanding officer. At the time the Maine was destroyed the ship was quiet, and therefore least liable to accident caused by movements from those on board.

"Third—The destruction of the Maine occurred at 9.40 P. M. on February 15, 1898, in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, she being at the time moored to the same buoy to which she had been taken upon her arrival. There were two explosions of a distinctly different character, with a very short but distinct interval between them, and the forward part of the ship was lifted to a marked degree at the time of the first explosion. The first explosion was more in the nature of a report, like that of a gun, while the second explosion was more open, prolonged and of greater volume. The second explosion was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the Maine.

THE AFTER PART INTACT.

"Fourth—The evidence bearing upon this, being principally obtained from divers, did not enable the court to form a definite conclusion as to the condition of the wreck, although it was established that the after part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the destruction of the forward part.

"The following facts in regard to the forward part of the ship are, however, established by the testimony:

"That portion of the port side of the protective deck which extends from about frame 30 to about frame 41 was blown up aft and over to port. The main deck, from about frame 30 to about frame 41, was blown up aft and slightly over to starboard, folding the frame forward part of the middle superstructure over and on top of the after part.

"This was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the Maine.

"Fifth—At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship, from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water; therefore, about thirty-four feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape, the after wing of which, about fifteen feet broad and thirty-two feet in length (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

THE KEEL BROKEN IN TWO.

"At frame 18 the vertical keel is broken in two and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water, and about thirty feet above its normal position.

"In the opinion of the court, this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18, and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

"Sixth—The court finds that the loss of the Maine on the occasion named was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew of said vessel.

"Seventh—in the opinion of the court, the Maine was de-

stroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines.

"Eighth—The court has been unable to obtain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

"W. T. SAMPSON, Captain U. S. N.,

"President.

"A. MARIX, Lieut.-Commander U. S. N.,

"Judge-Advocate.

"The court, having finished the inquiry it was ordered to make, adjourned at 11 A. M. to await the action of the convening authority.

"W. T. SAMPSON, Captain U. S. N.,

"President.

"A. MARIX, Lieut.-Commander U. S. N.,

"Judge-Advocate."

APPROVED BY ADMIRAL SICARD.

"U. S. Flagship New York, March 22, 1898.
"Off Key West, Fla.

"The proceedings and findings of the court of inquiry in the above case are approved. M. SICARD,
"Rear-Admiral, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Naval Force on the North Atlantic Station."

THE TESTIMONY.

ALL OBTAINABLE FACTS BEARING UPON THE DISASTER BROUGHT OUT IN DETAIL BY THE COURT.

Washington, March 28.—The immense mass of testimony taken by the Maine court of inquiry was sent to the Senate today and referred to the committee on foreign relations. The testimony was taken on eighteen different days, the fourteenth day, however, being devoted to viewing the wreck.

Every witness who was known to have any information that could throw light upon the great disaster was called to give his testimony. The story of the destruction of the vessel is told in a manner which gives all the obtainable facts. No technical detail is omitted.

Every moment and incident connected with the Maine from the time she left Key West until the last diver examined the wreck slowly sinking in the mud of Havana harbor is given. Perhaps the most significant testimony is that showing the bottom plates on the port side of the ill-fated Maine to be bent inward and upward, a result that hardly could have followed anything save an explosion from the outside.

A mass of testimony is submitted showing the care exercised on board the ship by Captain Sigsbee and his officers, and the apparent impossibility of the accident occurring by any internal cause, such as the heating of the bunkers, spontaneous combustion, or from other causes upon which so many theories were based. The testimony of Captain Sigsbee is of the greatest importance, and, perhaps, is of more general interest than that of any other man called before the board. With great care and minuteness he gives an account of the management of the ship, how she was handled, what was done from day to day on board, how she sailed into Havana, her anchorage and what he knew about it, and, in fact, every point upon which the government and the country desires to be informed. Nothing in Captain Sigsbee's testimony shows that the anchorage was changed, or that it was considered dangerous by any one.

Ensign Powelson had charge of the divers, and knew from day to day what these divers found. This officer was minutely informed as to the construction of the Maine and everything about her. His testimony was to a certain extent technical, bearing upon the construction of the ship, her plates, etc., but it was from these plates and this technical knowledge that he was able to declare that the explosion took place from the outside.

The divers, Morgan, Olsen and Smith, all contributed important evidence. They testified that the plates were bent

inward on the bottom port side and outward on the starboard side.

Nothing in the testimony fixes responsibility, no conspiracy is apparent, no knowledge of the planting of a mine is shown. Captain Sigsbee states that a somewhat bitter feeling existed against the American ship and Americans generally, and a witness whose name is suppressed tells of overhearing a conversation among Spanish officers and a citizen indicating a fore-knowledge of the destruction of the Maine by intention to blow her up.

An official of the American consulate tells of information received anonymously tending to show that a conspiracy existed, but nothing is definitely stated which fixes any responsibility upon Spain or her subjects.

CAPTAIN SIGSBEE.

Captain Sigsbee, who commanded the Maine, in testifying before the court of inquiry, said that he assumed command of the Maine on April 10, 1897, and that his ship arrived in the harbor of Havana the last time on January 24, 1898. The authorities at Havana knew of the Maine's coming, Consul-General Lee having informed the authorities, according to official custom. After he took on an official pilot sent by the captain of the port of Havana, the ship was berthed in the man-of-war anchorage off the Mochina, or Shears, and, according to his understanding, was one of the regular buoys of the place.

PLACE OF MOORING CRITICISED.

He then stated that he had been in Havana in 1872, and again in 1878. He could not state whether the Maine was placed in the usual berth for men-of-war, but said that he had heard remarks since the explosion, using Captain Stevens, temporarily in command of the Ward Line steamer City of

Washington, as authority for the statement that he had never known, in all his experience, which covered visits to Havana for five or six years, a man-of-war to be anchored at that buoy; that he had rarely known merchant vessels to be anchored there, and that it was the least used buoy in the harbor.

In describing the surroundings when first moored to his buoy, Captain Sigsbee stated that the Spanish man-of-war Alphonso XII was moored in the position now occupied by the Fern, about 250 yards to the northward and westward of the Maine. The German ship Gneisenau was anchored at one of the berths now occupied by the Spanish man-of-war Segaspe, which is about 400 yards about due north from the Maine. He then located the German man-of-war Charlotte, which came into the harbor a day or two later, which was anchored to the southward of the Maine's berth about 400 or 500 yards.

AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION.

In describing the surroundings at the time of the explosion, Captain Sigsbee stated that the night was calm and still. The Alphonso XII was at the same berth. The small Spanish dispatch boat Segaspe had come out the day before and taken the berth occupied by the German man-of-war, the Gneisenau, which had left. The steamer City of Washington was anchored about 200 yards to the south and east of the Maine's stern, slightly on the port quarter.

The Maine coaled at Key West, taking on about 150 tons, the coal being regularly inspected and taken from the government coal pile. This coal was placed generally in the forward bunkers. No report was received from the chief engineer that any coal had been too long in the bunkers, and that the fire-alarms in the bunkers were sensitive.

In so far as the regulations regarding inflammables and paints on board, Captain Sigsbee testified that the regulations were strictly carried out in regard to stowage, and that the waste also was subject to the same careful disposition. As

to the situation of the paint room, he fixed it as in the "eyes of the ship," just below the berth deck, the extreme forward compartment. As for the disposition of inflammables, they were stowed in chests according to regulations, and when inflammables were in excess of chest capacity they were allowed to be kept in the bathroom of the admiral's cabin.

LIGHTS WENT OUT IMMEDIATELY.

Regarding the electric plant of the Maine, Captain Sigsbee stated that there was no serious grounding, nor sudden flaring up of the lights before the explosion, but a sudden and total eclipse. As for regulations affecting the taking of temperature of the magazine and so on, he said there were no special regulations other than the usual regulations required by the department. He examined the temperature himself and conversed with the ordnance officer as to the various temperatures and the contents of the magazines, and, according to the opinion of this officer, as well as Sigsbee, the temperatures were never at the danger point.

"I do not think there was any laxity in this direction," said the Captain, in reply to a question of Judge-Advocate Marix.

He had no recollection of any work going on in the magazine or shellrooms on the day of the explosion. The keys were called for in the usual way on the day in question, and were properly returned. At the time of the disaster the two after boilers in the after fireroom were in use, because the hydraulic system was somewhat leaky.

RELATIONS WITH THE SPANISH.

Speaking generally of his relations with the Spanish authorities, Captain Sigsbee stated that with the officials they were outwardly cordial. The members of the autonomistic council of the government, however, seemed to have brought to the attention of the Navy Department the fact that he did not visit them, and that fact brought some embarrassment to the government at Washington. He took the ground to the de-

partment that it was unknown etiquette to call on the civil members of the colonial government, other than the Governor. Without waiting for such an order, Captain Sigsbee made a visit afterward, and, as he states, was pleasantly received and his visit promptly returned by certain members of the council. Later a party of ladies and gentlemen called and the president of the council made a speech, which Captain Sigsbee could not understand, but which was interpreted to him briefly, to which he replied.

"My reply," said Captain Sigsbee, "was afterward printed in at least two papers in Havana, but the terms made me favor autonomistic government in the island. I am informed that the autonomistic government in Havana is unpopular among the large class of Spanish and Cuban residents. I have no means of knowing whether my apparent interference in the political concerns of the island had any relation to the destruction of the Maine."

EVIDENCES OF ANIMOSITY.

When asked whether there was any demonstration of animosity by people afloat, Captain Sigsbee said that there never was on shore, as he was informed, but there was afloat. He then related that the first Sunday after the Maine's arrival a ferry boat, crowded densely with people, civil and military, returning from a bull fight in Regla, passed the Maine, and about forty people on board indulged in yells and whistles.

During the stay in Havana Captain Sigsbee took more than ordinary precautions for the protection of the Maine by placing sentries on the forecastle and poop and signal boys on the bridge and on the poop. A corporal of the guard was especially instructed to look out for the port gangway, and the officer of the deck and quarter-master were especially instructed to look out for the starboard gangway. A quarter-watch was kept on deck all night. Sentries' cartridge boxes were filled, their arms kept loaded, a number of rounds of rapid-fire ammunition kept in the pilot-house, and in the spare captain's pantry, under the after superstructure, was

kept additional charges of shell close at hand for the second battery. Steam was kept up on two boilers instead of one, and positive instructions were given to watch carefully all the hydraulic gear and report defects.

EVERY VISITOR WATCHED.

He said he had given orders to the master at arms and the ordinary sergeant to keep a careful eye on everybody that came on board and to carefully observe any packages that might be held, on the supposition that dynamite or other high explosives might be employed, and afterward to inspect the route these people had taken and never to lose sight of the importance of the order.

He stated that very few people visited the ship, Commander Wainwright being rather severe on desultory visitors. There were only two visits of Spanish military officers. Once a party of five or six Spanish officers came on board, but, according to the Captain, they were constrained and not desirous of accepting much courtesy. This visit was during the absence of the Captain. He said he made every effort to have the Spanish officers visit the ship to show good-will, according to the spirit of the Maine's visit to Havana, but, with the exceptions stated, no military officer of Spain visited the ship socially.

Captain Sigsbee then went into details regarding the precautions in force, especially in relation to quarter-watch, and which, he said, had never been rescinded. One of the cutters was in the water at the time of the accident, and one of the steam launches; the first was riding at the starboard boom.

The Captain said that the night of the explosion was quiet and warm, and that he remembered hearing distinctly the echoes of the bugle at tattoo. Stars were out, the sky, however, being overcast. The Maine at the time of the explosion was heading approximately northwest, pointing toward The Shears. He was writing at his port cabin table at the time of the explosion and was dressed.

CAPTAIN SIGSBEE'S EXPERIENCE.

He then went into a description of his experience when he felt the crash. He characterized it as a bursting, rending and crashing sound or roar of immense volume, largely metallic in its character. It was succeeded by a metallic sound, probably of falling debris, a trembling and lurching motion of the vessel, then an impression of subsidence, attended by an eclipse of electric lights and intense darkness within the cabin. He knew immediately that the Maine had been blown up, and that she was sinking. He hurried to the starboard cabin ports, but changed his course to the passage leading to the superstructure. Then he detailed the manner of meeting Private Anthony, which is much the same as has been published.

Commander Wainwright was on deck when Captain Sigsbee emerged from the passage way, and, turning to the orderly, he asked for the time, which was given as 9.40 o'clock. Sentries were ordered placed about the ship, and the forward magazine flooded if practicable. He called for perfect silence. The surviving officers were about him at the time on the poop. He was informed that both forward and after magazines were under water. Then came faint cries, and he saw dimly white floating bodies in the water. Boats were at once ordered lowered, but only two were found available, the gig and whale boat. They were lowered and manned by officers and by men, and by the Captain's direction they left the ship and assisted in saving the wounded jointly with other boats that had arrived on the scene.

EXPLOSION OF AMMUNITION.

Fire amidships by this time was burning fiercely, and the spare ammunition in the pilot-house was exploding in detail. At this time Lieutenant-Commander Wainwright whispered to the Captain that he thought the ten-inch magazine forward had been thrown up into the burning mass and might explode in time. Everybody was then directed to get into the boats over the stern, which was done, the Captain getting into the

gig and then proceeded to the City of Washington, where he found the wounded in the dining saloon being carefully attended by the officers and crew of the vessel. He then went on deck, observed the wreck for a few minutes and gave directions to have a muster taken on board the City of Washington and other vessels. He sat down in the Captain's cabin, and dictated a telegram to the Navy Department.

SPANIARDS EXPRESSED SORROW.

Various Spanish officials came on board and expressed sympathy and sorrow for the accident. The representatives of General Blanco and of the admiral of the station were among the Spanish officials who tendered their respects.

About eighty-four or eighty-five men were found that night who survived. By the time Captain Sigsbee reached the quarter-deck it was his impression that an overwhelming explosion had occurred. When he came from the cabin he was practically blinded for a few seconds. His only thought was for the vessel, and he took no note of the phenomena of the explosion. In reply to the direct question of whether any of the magazines or shell rooms were blown up, the Captain said it was extremely difficult to come to any conclusion. The center of the explosion was beneath and a little forward of the conning tower on the port side. In the region of the center or axis of the explosion was the six-inch reserve magazine, which contained very little powder, about 300 pounds. The ten-inch magazine was in the same general region, but on the starboard side. Over the ten-inch magazine in the loading room of the turret and in the adjoining passage a number of ten-inch shells were permanently placed.

According to Captain Sigsbee, it would be difficult to conceive that the explosion involved the ten-inch magazine, because of the location of the explosion, and that no reports show that any ten-inch shells were hurled into the air because of the explosion. The Captain went into details as to the location of the small-arm ammunition. He said that he did not believe that the forward six-inch magazine blew up. The

location of the gun-cotton was aft under the cabin. The gun cotton primers and the detonators were always kept in the cabin. He stated that he had examined the wreck himself, conversed with other officers and men, but, as the Spanish authorities were very much averse to an investigation, except officially, on the grounds, as stated by the Spanish admiral, that the honor of Spain was involved, he forebore to examine the submarine portion of the wreck for the cause of the explosion until the day the court convened.

SHIP'S DISCIPLINE EXCELLENT.

He said the discipline of the ship was excellent. The marine guard was in excellent condition. The reports of the medical department show that about one man and a-quarter per day were on the sick list during the past year. In the engineer's department the vessel was always ready and always responsive. He paid a tribute to the crew, and said that a quieter, better-natured lot of men he had never known on board any vessel in which he had served. He had no fault to find with the behavior of any officer or man at the time of the disaster, and considered their conduct admirable.

On his examination by the court, Captain Sigsbee said that the highest temperature he could remember was 112, but that was in the after magazine. The temperatures in the forward magazines were considerably lower. There was no loose powder kept in the magazine. All the coal bunkers were ventilated through air tubes examined weekly by the chief engineer, and were connected electrically to the annunciator near his cabin door. The forward coal bunker on the port side was full. The forward coal bunker on the starboard side was half full, and it was in use at the time of the explosion.

NO UNDUE HEAT IN COAL BUNKER.

Captain Sigsbee, being recalled, stated that he had detailed Lieutenant-Commander Wainwright, Lieutenant Holman and Chief Engineer Howell, all of the Maine, to obtain informa-

tion in regard to any outsiders who may have seen the explosion. Captain Sigsbee also gave as his opinion that if coal bunker A 16 had been so hot as to be dangerous to the six-inch reserve magazine, this condition would have been shown on three sides where the bunker was exposed, and that men constantly passing to and fro by it would have necessarily noticed any undue heat.

Captain Sigsbee was examined as to the ammunition on board the Maine. He stated that there were no high explosives, gun-cotton, detonators or other material in magazines or shellroom which the regulations prohibit. He testified that no war heads had been placed on torpedoes since he had command of the ship.

SITUATION IN CUBA BY U. S. SENATOR PROCTOR.**The Misery Indescribable—Reconcentrados
Dying from Starvation and Disease.**

There are six provinces in Cuba, each, with the exception of Matanzas, extending the whole width of the island and having about an equal sea front on the north and south borders. Matanzas touches the Caribbean sea only at its southwest corner, being separated from it elsewhere by a narrow peninsula of Santa Clara Province. The provinces are named, beginning at the west, Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas, Santa Clara, Puerto Principe and Santiago de Cuba. My observations were confined to the four western provinces, which constitute about one-half the island. The two eastern ones are practically in the hands of the insurgents except the few fortified towns. These two large provinces are spoken of today as "Cuba Libre."

QUIET IN HAVANA.

Havana, the great city and capital of the island, is, in the eyes of the Spaniards and many Cubans, all Cuba, as much as Paris is France. But having visited it in more peaceful times and seen its sights, the tomb of Columbus, the forts Cabana and Moro Castle, etc., I did not care to repeat this, preferring trips in the country. Everything seems to go on much as usual in Havana. Quiet prevails, and, except for the frequent squads of soldiers marching to guard and police duty and their abounding presence in all public places, one sees little signs of war.

Outside Havana all is changed. It is not peace, nor is it war. It is desolation and distrust, misery and starvation. Every town and village is surrounded by a trocha (trench), a sort of rifle pit, but constructed on a plan new to me, the dirt being thrown up on the inside and a barbed-wire fence on the outer side of the trench. These trochas have at every corner and at frequent intervals along the sides what are there called forts, but which are really small blockhouses, many of them more like a large sentry box, loopholed for musketry, and with a guard of from two to ten soldiers in each. The purpose of these trochas is to keep the reconcentrados in, as well as to keep the insurgents out. From all the surrounding country the people have been driven into these fortified towns and held there to subsist as they can.

They are virtually prison yards and not unlike one in general appearance, except the walls are not so high and strong, but they suffice, where every point is in range of a soldier's rifle, to keep in the poor reconcentrado women and children. Every railroad station is within one of these trochas, and has an armed guard. Every train has an armored freight car, loopholed for musketry, and filled with soldiers and with (as I observed usually and was informed is always the case) a pilot engine a mile or so in advance. There are frequent blockhouses inclosed by a trocha and with a guard along the railroad track.

NO HUMAN LIFE OR HABITATION.

With this exception there is no human life or habitation between these fortified towns and villages and throughout the whole of the four western provinces, except to a very limited extent among the hills where the Spaniards have not been able to go and drive people from the towns and burn the dwellings. I saw no house or hut in the 400 miles of railroad rides from Pinar del Rio province, in the west across the full width of Havana and Matanzas provinces, and to Sagua la Grande, on the north shore, and to Cienfuegos, on the south shore of Santa Clara, except within the Spanish trochas.

There are no domestic animals or crops on the fields and pastures, except such as are under guard in the immediate vicinity of the towns.

In other words, the Spaniards hold in these four western provinces just what their army sits on. Every man, woman and child and every domestic animal, wherever their columns have reached, is under guard and within their so-called fortifications. To describe one place is to describe all. To repeat, it is neither peace nor war. It is concentration and desolation. This is the "pacified" condition of the four western provinces.

West of Havana is mainly the rich tobacco country; east so far as I went, a sugar region. Nearly all the sugar mills are destroyed between Havana and Sagua. Two or three were standing in the vicinity of Sagua, and in part running, surrounded, as are the villages by trochas and "forts," or palisades, of the royal palm and fully guarded. Toward and near Cienfuegos there were more mills running, but all with the same protection. It is said that the owners of these mills near Cienfuegos have been able to obtain special favors of the Spanish government in the way of a large force of soldiers, but that they also, as well as all the railroads, pay taxes to the Cubans for immunity. I had no means of verifying this. It is the common talk among those who have better means of knowledge.

THE RECONCENTRADOS.

All the country people in the four western provinces, about 400,000 in number, remaining outside the fortified towns when Weyler's order was made, were driven into these towns, and these are the reconcentrados. They were the peasantry, many of them farmers, some landowners, others renting lands and owning more or less stock, others working on estates and cultivating small patches, and even a small patch in that fruitful clime will support a family. It is but fair to say that the normal condition of these people was very different from that which prevails in this country. Their standard of comfort

and prosperity was not high, measured by our own. But, according to their standards and requirements, their conditions of life were satisfactory.

They lived mostly in cabins, made of palm, or in wooden houses. Some of them had houses of stone, the blackened walls of which are all that remain to show that the country was ever inhabited. The first clause of Weyler's order reads as follows:

I order and command:

First—All the inhabitants of the country or outside of the line of fortifications of the towns shall, within the period of eight days, concentrate themselves in the town so occupied by the troops. Any individual who, after the expiration of this period, is found in the uninhabited parts, will be considered a rebel and tried as such.

The other three sections forbid the transportation of provisions from one town to another without permission of the military authority; direct the owners of cattle to bring them into the towns; prescribe that the eight days shall be counted from the publication of the proclamation to the head town of the municipal districts, and state that if news is furnished of the enemy which can be made use of it will serve as a "recommendation."

CRUELTY OF GUERILLAS.

Many, doubtless, did not learn of this order. Others failed to grasp its terrible meaning. Its execution was left largely to the guerillas to drive in all that had not obeyed, and I was informed that in many cases a torch was applied to their homes with no notice and the inmates fled with such clothing as they might have on, their stock and other belongings being appropriated by the guerillas. When they reached the town they were allowed to build huts of palm leaves in the suburbs and vacant places within the trochas, and left to live if they could. Their huts are about ten by fifteen feet in size, and, for want of space, are usually crowded together very closely. They have no floor but the ground, and no furniture, and after

a year's wear but little clothing except such stray substitutes as they can extemporize.

With large families, or with more than one in this little space, the commonest sanitary provisions are impossible. Conditions are unmentionable in this respect. Torn from their homes, with foul earth, foul air, foul water and foul food or none, what wonder that one-half have died and that one-quarter of the living are so diseased that they cannot be saved. A form of dropsy is a common disorder, resulting from these conditions. Little children are still walking about with arms and chest terribly emaciated, eyes swollen and abdomen bloated to three times the natural size. The physicians say these cases are hopeless.

MANY DIE IN THE STREETS.

Deaths in the streets have not been uncommon. I was told by one of our consuls that they have been found dead about the markets in the morning, where they had crawled, hoping to get some stray bits of food from the early hucksters, and that there had been cases where they had dropped dead inside the market, surrounded by food. These people were independent and self-supporting before Weyler's order. They are not beggars, even now. There are plenty of professional beggars in every town among the regular residents, but these country people, the reconcentrados, have not learned the art. Rarely is a hand held out to you for alms when going among their huts, but the sight of them makes an appeal stronger than words.

Of the hospitals I need not speak. Others have described their conditions far better than I can. It is not within the narrow limits of my vocabulary to portray. I went to Cuba with a strong conviction that the picture had been overdrawn; that a few cases of starvation and suffering had inspired and stimulated the press correspondents and they had given free play to a strong, natural and highly-cultivated imagination. Before starting I received through the mail a leaflet published by the Christian Herald, with cuts of some of the sick and

starving reconcentrados, and took it with me, thinking these were rare specimens got up to make the worst possible showing. I saw plenty as bad and worse; many that should not be photographed and shown.

I could not believe that out of a population of 1,600,000, 200,000 had died within these Spanish forts, practically prison walls, within a few months past from actual starvation and diseases caused by insufficient and improper food. My inquiries were entirely outside of sensational sources. They were made of our medical officers, of our consuls, of mayors, of relief committees, of leading merchants and bankers, physicians and lawyers. Several of my informants were Spanish born, but every time the answer was that the case had not been overstated. What I saw, I cannot tell, so that others can see it. It must be seen with one's own eyes to be realized.

The Los Pazos Hospital, in Havana, has been recently described by one of my colleagues, Senator Gallinger, and I cannot say that his picture was overdrawn, for even his fertile pen could not do that. He visited it after Dr. Lesser, one of Miss Barton's very able and efficient assistants, had renovated it and put in cots. I saw it when 400 women and children were lying on the stone floors in an indescribable state of emaciation and disease, many with the scantiest covering of rags—and such rags—and sick children naked as they came into the world. And the conditions in the other cities are even worse.

PEACE THE ONLY REMEDY.

When will the need for this help end? Not until peace comes and the reconcentrados can go back to their country, rebuild their homes, reclaim their tillage plots, which quickly run up to brush in that wonderful soil and clime, and until they can be free from danger of molestation in so doing. Until then the American people must in the main care for them. It is true that the mayors, other local authorities and relief committees are now trying to do something and desire, I believe, to do the best they can. But the problem is beyond

their means and capacity, and the work is one to which they are not accustomed.

General Blanco's order of November 13 last somewhat modifies the Weyler orders, but is of little or no practical benefit. Its application is limited to farm "property defended," and the owners are obliged to build "centers of defence." Its execution is completely in the discretion of the local military authorities, and they know the terrible military efficiency of Weyler's order in stripping the country of all possible shelter, food or source of information for an insurgent and will be slow to surrender this advantage. In fact, though the order was issued four months ago, I saw no beneficent results from it worth mentioning. I do not impugn General Blanco's motives, and believe him to be an amiable gentleman, and that he would be glad to relieve the condition of the reconcentrados if he could do so without loss of any military advantage, but he knows that all Cubans are insurgents at heart, and none now under military control will be allowed to go from under it.

I wish I might speak of the country, of its surpassing richness. I have never seen one to compare with it. On this point I agree with Columbus, and believe every one between his time and mine must be of the same opinion. It is, indeed, a land "where every prospect pleases and only man is vile."

THE SPANIARDS IN CUBA.

I had but little time to study the race question, and have read nothing on it, so I can only give hasty impressions. It is said that there are nearly 200,000 Spaniards in Cuba, out of a total population of 1,600,000. They live principally in the towns and cities. The small shopkeepers in the towns and their clerks are mostly Spaniards. Much of the larger business, too, and of the property in the cities, and in a less degree in the country, is in their hands. They have an eye to thrift and as everything possible in the way of trade and legalized monopolies, in which the country abounds, is given to them by the government, many of them acquire property. I did

not learn that the Spanish residents of the island had contributed largely in blood or treasure to suppress the insurrection.

There are, or were before the war, about 1,000,000 Cubans on the island, 200,000 Spaniards (which means those born in Spain), and less than half a million of negroes and mixed blood. The Cuban whites are pure Spanish blood, and, like the Spaniards, usually dark in complexion, but oftener light or blonde, so far as I noticed, than Spaniards.

PERCENTAGE OF COLORED TO WHITE.

The percentage of colored to white has been steadily diminishing for more than fifty years, and is not now over 25 per cent. of the total. In fact, the number of colored people has been actually diminishing for nearly that time.

The Cuban farmer and laborer is by nature peaceable, kindly, gay, hospitable, light-hearted and improvident. There is a proverb among the Cubans that "Spanish bulls cannot be bred in Cuba," that is, that the Cubans, though they are of Spanish blood, are less excitable and are of a quiet temperament. Many Cubans whom I met spoke in strong terms against bull fights, that it was a brutal institution, introduced and mainly patronized by the Spaniards. One thing that was new to me was to learn the superiority of the well-to-do Cuban over the Spaniard in the matter of education. Among those in good circumstances there can be no doubt that the Cuban is far superior in this respect. And the reason of it is easy to see. They have been educated in England, France or this country, while the Spaniard has such education as his own country furnished.

The colored people seem to me by nature quite the equal, mentally and physically, of the race in this country. Certainly physically they are by far the larger and stronger race on the island. There is little or no race prejudice, and this has doubtless been greatly to their advantage. Eighty-five years ago there were one-half as many free negroes as slaves, and this proportion was slowly increasing until emancipation.

THE MILITARY SITUATION.

It is said that there are about 60,000 Spanish soldiers in Cuba fit for duty, out of 400,000 that have been sent there. The rest have died, been sent home sick and in the hospitals, and some have been killed, notwithstanding the official reports. They are conscripts, many of them very young, and generally small men. One hundred and thirty pounds is a fair estimate of their average weight. They are quiet and obedient, and, if well drilled and led, I believe would fight fairly well, but not at all equal to our own men. Much more would depend on the leadership than with us. The officer must lead well, and be one in whom they have confidence, and this applies to both sides alike. As I saw no drills or regular formation, I inquired about them of many persons, and was informed that they had never seen a drill.

I saw perhaps 10,000 Spanish troops, but not a piece of artillery, nor a tent. They live in barracks in the towns, and are seldom out for more than a day, returning to town at night. They have little or no equipment for supply trains or for a field campaign such as we have. Their cavalry horses are scrubby little native ponies weighing not over 800 pounds, tough and hardy, but for the most part in wretched condition, reminding one of the mounts of Don Quixote and his squire. Some on the officers, however, have good horses, mostly American, I think. On both sides cavalry is considered the favorite and the dangerous fighting arm.

The tactics of the Spanish as described to me by an eyewitness and a participant in some of their battles, is for the infantry, when threatened by insurgent cavalry, to form a hollow square and fire away without ceasing until they march back to town.

It does not seem to have entered the minds of either side that a good infantry force can take care of itself and repulse everywhere an equal number of cavalry, and there are everywhere positions where cavalry would be at a disadvantage.

THE INSURGENT FORCES.

Having called on Governor and Captain-General Blanco and received his courteous call in return, I could not with propriety seek communication with insurgents. I had plenty of offers of safe conduct to Gomez's camp, and was told that if I would write him an answer would be returned safely within ten days at most. I saw several who had visited the insurgent camps, and was sought out by an insurgent field officer, who gave me the best information received as to the insurgent force. The statements were moderate, and I was credibly informed that he was entirely reliable. He claimed that the Cubans had about 30,000 good men now in the field, some in every province, but mostly in the two eastern provinces and Santa Clara, and the statement was corroborated from other good sources.

They have a force all the time in Havana province itself, organized as four small brigades and operating in small bands. Ruiz was taken, tried and shot about a mile and a-half of the railroad and about fifteen miles out of Havana, on the road to Matanzas, a road more traveled than any other, and which I went over four times. Arranguren was killed about three miles the other side of the road, and about the same distance, fifteen or twenty miles, from Havana. They were well armed, but very poorly supplied with ammunition. They are not allowed to carry many cartridges, sometimes not more than one or two. The infantry especially are poorly clad.

About one-third of the Cuban army are colored, mostly in the infantry, as the cavalry furnished their own horses. This field officer, an American from a Southern State, spoke in the highest terms of the conduct of these colored soldiers; that they were as good fighters and had more endurance than the whites, could keep up with the cavalry on a long march and come in fresh at night.

POLITICAL SITUATION.

The dividing lines between parties are the most straight and clear-cut that have ever come to my knowledge. The

division in our war was by no means so clearly defined. It is Cuban against Spaniard. It is practically the entire Cuban population on one side and the Spanish army and the Spanish citizens on the other. I do not count the autonomists in this division, as they are so far too inconsiderable in numbers to be worth counting. General Blanco filled the civil offices with men who had been autonomists and were still classed as such. But the march of events had satisfied most of them that the chance for autonomy came too late. It falls as talk of compromise would have fallen the last year or two of our war. If it succeeds it can only be by armed force, by the triumph of the Spanish army, and the success of Spanish arms would be easier by Weyler's policy and methods, for in that the Spanish army and people believe.

There is no doubt that General Blanco is acting in entire good faith, that he desires to give the Cubans a fair measure of autonomy, as Campos did at the close of the ten-year war. He has, of course, a few personal followers, but the army and Spanish citizens do not want genuine autonomy, for that means government by the Cuban people, and it is not strange that the Cubans say it comes too late.

I have never had any communication, direct or indirect, with the Cuban junta in this country or any of its members, nor did I have with any of the junta which exists in every city and large town of Cuba. None of the calls I made were upon parties of whose sympathies I had the least knowledge, except that I knew some of them were classed as autonomists. Most of my informants were business men who had no sides and rarely expressed themselves. I had no means of guessing in advance what their answers would be, and was in most cases greatly surprised at their frankness.

TOO LATE FOR AUTONOMY.

I inquired in regard to autonomy of men of wealth and men prominent in business in the cities of Havana, Matanzas and Sagua. Bankers, merchants, lawyers and autonomist officials, some of them Spanish born, but Cuban bred, one promi-

nent Englishman, several of them known as autonomists and several of them telling me they were still believers in autonomy if practicable. Without exception they replied that it was "too late" for that. Some favored a United States protectorate, some annexation, some free Cuba; not one has been counted favoring the insurrection at first. They were business men and wanted peace, but said it was too late for peace under Spanish sovereignty. They characterized Weyler's order in far stronger terms than I can. I could not but conclude that you do not have to scratch an autonomist very deep to find a Cuban. There is soon to be an election, but every polling place must be inside a fortified town. Such elections ought to be safe for "ins."

I have endeavored to state in not intemperate mood what I saw and heard, and to make no argument thereon, but leave every one to draw his own conclusions. To me the strongest appeal is not the barbarity practiced by Weyler, nor the loss of the Maine, if our worst fears should prove true, terrible as are both of these incidents, but the spectacle of a million and a-half people—the entire native population of Cuba—struggling for freedom and deliverance from the worst misgovernment of which I ever had knowledge. But, whether our action ought to be influenced by any one or all these things, and, if so, how far, is another question.

OPPOSED TO ANNEXATION.

I am not in favor of annexation, not because I would apprehend any particular trouble from it, but because it is not a wise policy to take in any people of foreign tongue and training and without any strong guiding American element. The fear that if free the people of Cuba would be revolutionary is not so well founded as has been supposed, and the conditions for good self-government are far more favorable. The large number of educated and patriotic men, the great sacrifices they have endured, the peaceable temperament of the people, whites and blacks, the wonderful prosperity that would surely come with peace and good home rule, the large influx of

American and English immigration and money would all be strong factors for stable institutions.

But it is not my purpose at this time, nor do I consider it my province, to suggest any plan. I merely speak of the symptoms as I saw them, but do not undertake to prescribe. Such remedial steps as may be required may safely be left to an American President and the American people.

BATTLE OF MANILA.

**GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF DEWEY'S TRIUMPHANT CONFLICT—
THE SPANISH SQUADRON SUCCUMBED TO THE TERRIFIC FIRE
OF THE WELL-AIMED AMERICAN GUNS AND THE BATTLE CRY
WAS "REMEMBER THE MAINE"—THE EIGHT WOUNDED
AMERICANS—INCIDENTS OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS CONFLICT.**

From special dispatches and Associated Press reports of Commodore Dewey's famous fight and remarkable victory in Manila bay, it is learned that on Monday, April 25, after receiving news of the declaration of war, the fleet quitted British waters and on Wednesday sailed for Manila at the fastest speed that could be made with the coal supply provided for the ships. On Saturday night it passed the batteries at the entrance of Manila bay and on Sunday morning the battle began.

ENTERING THE BAY.

In the words of a special correspondent, who stood beside Commodore Dewey on the bridge of the flagship Olympia during the engagement, with all its lights out the squadron steamed into Bocagrande on Saturday night with crews at the guns. This was the order of the squadron, which was kept during the whole time of the first battle: The flagship Olympia, the Baltimore, the Raleigh, the Petrel, the Concord, the Boston.

It was just 8 o'clock, a bright moonlight night, but the flagship passed Corregidor Island without a sign being given that the Spaniards were aware of its approach.

Not until the flagship was a mile beyond Corregidor was a gun fired. Then one heavy shot went screaming over the Ra-

leigh and the Olympia, followed by a second, which fell further astern.

The Raleigh, the Concord and the Boston replied, the Concord's shells exploding apparently exactly inside the shore battery, which fired no more.

The squadron slowed down to barely steerage way and the men were allowed to sleep alongside their guns.

Commodore Dewey had timed the arrival so that the fleet were within five miles of the city of Manila at daybreak.

THE SPANISH SQUADRON.

Off Cavite the Spanish squadron was sighted. Admiral Montejon commanding, whose flag was flying on the 3500-ton protected cruiser Reina Christina. The protected cruiser Castilla, of 3200 tons, was moored ahead, and astern to the port battery and to seaward were the cruisers Don Juan de Austria, Don Antonio de Ulloa, Isla de Cuba, Isla de Luzon, Quiros, Marquis del Onero and General Lezox. These ships and the flagship remained under way during most of the action.

UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES.

"With the United States flag flying at all their mastheads," writes the correspondent, "our ships moved to the attack in line ahead, with a speed of eight knots, first passing in front of Manila, where the action was begun by three batteries mounting guns powerful enough to send a shell over us at a distance of five miles.

"The Concord's guns boomed out a reply to these batteries with two shots. No more were fired, because Commodore Dewey could not engage with these batteries without sending death and destruction into the crowded city.

"As we neared Cavite two very powerful submarine mines were exploded ahead of the flagship. This was at 5.06 o'clock.

"The Spaniards evidently had misjudged our position. Immense volumes of water were thrown high in the air by these destroyers, but no harm was done to our ships.

"No other mines exploded, however, and it is believed that the Spaniards had only these two in place.

REMEMBERED THE MAINE.

"Only a few minutes later the shore battery at Cavite Point sent over the flagship a shot that nearly hit the battery in Manila, but soon the guns got a better range and the shells began to strike near us or burst close aboard from both the batteries and the Spanish vessels.

"The heat was intense. Men stripped off all clothing except their trousers.

"As the Olympia drew nearer all was as silent on board as if the ship had been empty, except for the whirr of blowers and the throb of the engines.

"Suddenly a shell burst directly over us.

"From the boatswain's mate at the after five-inch gun came a hoarse cry. 'Remember the Maine,' arose from the throats of 500 men at the guns.

"This watchword was caught up in turrets and firerooms wherever seaman or fireman stood at his post.

"'Remember the Maine!' had rung out for defiance and revenge. Its utterance seemed unpremeditated, but was evidently in every man's mind, and, now that the moment had come to make adequate reply to the murder of the Maine's crew, every man shouted what was in his heart.

READY TO BEGIN.

"The Olympia was now ready to begin the fight.

"Commodore Dewey, his chief of staff, Commodore Lamberton, an aide and myself, with Executive Officer Lieutenant Rees and Navigator Lieutenant Calkins, who conned ship most admirably, were on the forward bridge. Captain Gridley was in the conning tower, as it was thought unsafe to risk losing all the senior officers by one shell.

"'You may fire when ready, Gridley,' said the Commodore, and at nineteen minutes of 6 o'clock, at a distance of 5500

yards, the starboard eight-inch gun in the forward turret roared forth a compliment to the Spanish forts.

"Presently similar guns from the Baltimore and the Boston sent 250-pound shells hurling toward the Castilla and the Reina Christina for accuracy.

"The Spaniards seemed encouraged to fire faster, knowing exactly our distance, while we had to guess their. Their ship and shore guns were making things hot for us."

"OPEN WITH ALL GUNS."

A number of incidents of narrow escapes from death occurred during the battle, at one time a shell passing under Commodore Dewey and gouging a hole in the deck. Changing his course to a distance of 4000 yards, Commodore Dewey finally issued the order to "Open with all guns," and soon all the vessels were hard at work. The result of this fierce cannonade is described by the Associated Press correspondent, who says:

"By this time the Spanish ships were in a desperate condition. The flagship Reina Christina was riddled with shot and shell, one of her steam pipes had burst and she was believed to be on fire. The Castilla was certainly on fire, and soon afterward their condition became worse and worse, until they were eventually burned to the water's edge.

"The Don Antonio de Ulloa made a most magnificent show of desperate bravery. When her commander found she was so torn by the American shells that he could not keep her afloat, he nailed her colors to the mast, and she sank with all hands fighting to the last. Her hull was completely riddled and her upper deck had been swept clean by the awful fire of the American guns, but the Spaniards, though their vessels were sinking beneath them, continued working the guns on her lower deck until she sank beneath the waters.

FATE OF A TORPEDO-BOAT.

"During the engagement a Spanish torpedo-boat crept along

the shore and round the offing, in an attempt to attack the American store ships, but she was promptly discovered, was driven ashore, and was actually shot to pieces.

"The Mindanao had, in the meanwhile, been run ashore to save her from sinking, and the Spanish small craft had sought shelter from the steel storm behind the breakwater.

THE FINISHING TOUCHES.

"The battle, which was started at about 5.30 A. M., and adjourned at 8.30 A. M., was resumed about noon, when Commodore Dewey started in to put the finishing touches to his glorious work. There was not much fight left in the Spaniards by that time, and at 2 P. M. the Petrel and Concord had shot the Cavite batteries into silence, leaving them heaps of ruins and floating the white flag.

"The Spanish gunboats were then scuttled, the arsenal was on fire and the explosion of a Spanish magazine caused further mortality among the defenders of Spain on shore.

"On the water the burning, sunken or destroyed Spanish vessels could be seen, while only the cruiser Baltimore had suffered in any way from the fire of the enemy. A shot which struck her exploded some ammunition near one of her guns and slightly injured a half-dozen of the crew."

AFTER THE ACTION.

At the end of the action Commodore Dewey anchored his fleet in the bay before Manila, and sent a message to the Governor-General, General Augusti, announcing the inauguration of the blockade, and adding that if a shot was fired against his ships he would destroy every battery about Manila.

The position occupied by the Spaniards, the support which their ships received from the land batteries, and the big guns they had on shore gave them an enormous advantage. Therefore, when it is considered that the Spaniards lost over 600 men in killed and wounded, that all their ships, amounting to about fourteen, were destroyed, and that their naval arsenal at

Cavite was also destroyed, with its defences, it will become apparent that the victory of the American Commodore is one of the most complete and wonderful achievements in the history of naval warfare.

Not a man on the American fleet was killed, not a ship was damaged to any extent, and only eight men were injured slightly on board the Baltimore.

THE SPANISH LOSS.

The losses of the Spaniards include ten warships, several torpedo-boats, two transports, navy-yard and nine batteries. Including the losses ashore, about 1200 Spaniards were killed or wounded.

The estimated value of the Spanish property destroyed or captured is \$6,000,000. On the American side the total loss is eight men wounded and \$5000 damage to the ships.

THE AMERICANS WOUNDED.

The eight wounded men of the Baltimore are Lieut. Frank Woodruff Kellogg, of Waterbury, Conn., aged 41; Ensign Noble Edward Irwin, of Greenfield, Ohio, aged 29; Coxswain Michael John Buddinger, of Manitowoc, Wis.; Landsman Robert L. Bartow, of Bartow, Minn., aged 25; Seaman Richard P. Covert, of Racine, Wis., aged 28; Seaman William O'Keefe, of Newark, N. J., aged 30; Seaman Rosario Ricciardelli, born in Italy but a naturalized American, aged 24, and Coxswain Edward Snelgrove, of Ellensburg, Wash., aged 24.

From Admiral Dewey's statement, taken in connection with the press reports, the officials of the Navy Department are satisfied that none of these officers or men are seriously injured. They gather from the accounts that the explosion of ammunition, which is supposed to have caused most of the injuries, was confined to one small box or chest of the fixed ammunition that is put up for six-pounder guns and kept beside the gun whenever the ship is cleared for action.

ACTION OF THE FLEET.

On Monday following the battle the American forces occupied the Spanish navy-yard at Manila, blew up six batteries at the entrance of the bay, cut the cable, established a blockade of Manila and drove the Spanish forces out of Cavite. Tuesday and Wednesday the lower bay and entrance were swept for torpedoes, and the crews were given a well-earned rest, while the Admiral prepared his dispatches.

INCIDENTS OF THE FIGHT.

During the engagement Sunday one shot struck the Baltimore and passed clean through her, fortunately hitting no one. Another ripped up her main deck, disabled a six-inch gun and exploded a box of three-pounder ammunition, wounding eight men.

The Olympia was struck abreast the gun in the ward room by a shell, which burst outside, doing little damage.

The signal halyards were cut from Lieutenant Brumby's hand on the after bridge. A shell entered the Boston's port quarter and burst in Ensign Dodridge's stateroom, starting a hot fire, and fire was also caused by a shell which burst in the port hammock netting. Both these fires were quickly put out.

Another shell passed through the Boston's foremast, just in front of Captain Wildes, on the bridge.

**COMMODORE DEWEY—HE SMELLED POWDER IN THE CIVIL WAR
AND HAS HAD A VARIED CAREER IN THE NAVY.**

Commodore Dewey was born in Vermont sixty-one years ago, and entered the navy when he was seventeen years of age. On graduation from the Naval Academy in 1858 he was ordered to the steam frigate Wabash, of the European squadron, for a cruise which lasted until 1859. Commissioned a lieutenant April 19, 1861, he was attached to the Mississippi, of the West Gulf squadron, from 1861 to 1863, taking part in the capture of New Orleans in 1862, and the battle at Port Hudson in

July, 1863. The Mississippi was destroyed in this action, being struck 250 times in a short time. Lieutenant Dewey was also in a gunboat fight at Donaldsonville soon afterward, and the next year was on the Agawam, of the North Atlantic blockading squadron, taking part in both attacks on Fort Fisher.

Made a lieutenant-commander March 3, 1865, he was in turn the executive officer of the Kearsarge and the Colorado, of the European squadron, and was given his first command—that of the Narragansett—on special duty, in 1871, at the unusually early age of thirty-three. As commander he was again appointed to the Narragansett, doing three years of deep-sea surveying in the Pacific.

He did lighthouse duty from 1876 to 1882, and commanded the Juniata, of the Asiatic squadron, in 1882-1883. He became captain in 1884 and was the first commander of the Dolphin, the first ship of the new navy. His last previous sea command was that of the Pensacola on the European station, 1885-1888.

From 1889 to 1893 he was in charge of the Navy Department bureau of equipment and recruiting. He was put in charge of the Asiatic squadron January 1 of this year, having become a commodore February 28, 1896.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

The following report upon the Philippine Islands is the first official publication in relation to them. It was made by Mr. Oscar F. Williams, Consul at Manila, and is dated February 28, 1898. It will form a part of the forthcoming edition of "Commercial Relations, 1896-97," but is published in advance because of the general demand for information. The report is as follows:

"Local and European authorities estimate the area of the Philippine Islands at 150,000 square miles, and their population at 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 people. The island of Luzon, on which the city of Manila is situated, is larger than New York and Massachusetts, and has a population of 5,000,000; and the island of Mindanao is nearly, if not quite, as large. There are scores of other islands, large and very populous. An idea of the extent of the Philippines may be formed when it is stated that the six New England States, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware have 10 per cent. less area. In addition to the Philippine Islands, the Caroline, Ladrone and Sooloo groups are considered under the jurisdiction of this consulate (Manila). I have received a petition requesting that a consular agency be established at Yep, in the Caroline group.

"In all, there are about 2000 islands in a land and sea area of about 1200 miles of latitude and 2400 miles of longitude.

EXPORTS.

"During the quarter ending December 31, 1897, there were exported from these islands to the United States and Great Britain 216,898 bales of hemp (280 pounds per bale), of which 138,792 bales went to the United States and only 78,106 bales to Great Britain. During the year 1897 there was an increase

in the export of hemp from the Philippines to continental Europe of 19,741 bales; to Australia, 2192 bales; to China, 28 bales; to Japan, 2628 bales, and to the United States, 133,896 bales—a total increase of 158,485 bales, while to Great Britain there was a decrease of 22,348 bales.

"Thus, of increased shipments from the Philippines, those to the United States were 544 per cent. greater than to all other countries combined.

"Of the total exports of hemp from the Philippines for the ten years ended 1897, amounting to 6,528,965 bales (914.055 tons), 41 per cent. went to the United States.

"During the same years the Philippine Islands exported to the United States and to Europe 1,582,904 tons of sugar, of which 875.150 tons went to the United States, 666.391 tons to Great Britain, and 41.362 tons to continental Europe, showing that of the total exports more than 55 per cent. went to the United States.

"At the current values in New York of hemp (four cents per pound) and of raw sugar (three and three-eighths cents per pound), the exports of these two products alone from these islands to the United States, during the ten years under review, amounted to \$89,263,722.80, or an average of nearly \$8,926,372* per year.

"Data as to cigars, tobacco, copra, woods, hides, shells, indigo, coffee, etc., are not now obtainable; but a conservative estimate would so raise the above figures as to show United States imports from these islands to average about \$1,000,000 per month. Today I have authenticated invoices for export to United States amounting to \$138,066.12.

"The following statement of the general trade of the Philippine Islands is taken from Review of the World's Commerce, 1896-97, shortly to be published by the Bureau of Foreign Commerce.

*According to the returns of the Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department, the annual imports into the United States from the Philippine Islands amounted to \$74,150,284 during the ten years ended June 30, 1897, or \$7,415,028 per year. For the seven years ended with 1894 the imports averaged \$8,564.611 per year, but for the last three years the imports fell off nearly one-half, amounting to only \$4,731,366, \$4,982,857 and \$1,383,740, in 1895, 1896 and 1897 respectively.

"According to a British Foreign Office report (No. 1932, annual series, 1897), the total imports into the islands in 1896 were valued at \$10,631,250, and the exports at \$20,175,000. The trade with several of the most important countries (compiled from the respective official statistics) was:

Country.	Imports.	Exports.
Great Britain.....	\$2,467,090	\$7,467,500
Germany	744,928	223,700
France	1,794,900	1,987,900
Belgium	272,240	45,660
United States.....	162,446	4,982,857
China	103,680	13,770
Japan*	98,782	1,387,909

*In 1897.

"About 13 per cent. of the imports, says the Statesman's Year Book, come from Spain. Three-fifths of the imports from Great Britain consist of cotton manufactures and yarn.

"Details of trade with the United States during the last two years are given by the United States Treasury as follows:

ARTICLES.	1896.		1897.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
Imports.				
Hemp, manila..... tons.	35,584	\$2,499,494	38,533	\$2,701,651
Cane sugar (not above No. 16) lbs.	142,075,344	2,270,902	72,463,577	1,99,202
Fiber, vegetable, not hemp.....tons.	872	68,838	5,450	384,155
Fiber, vegetable, manufactures of.....	.....	26,428	.....	22,170
Straw, manufactures of.....	.....	81,352	.....	72,137
Tobacco..... lbs.	1,280	808	2,745	2,338
Miscellaneous.....	.....	35,035	.....	1,087
Total.....	.....	\$4,982,857	.....	\$4,383,740
Exports.				
Cotton, manufactures of.....	.....	9,714	.....	2,164
Oils, mineral, refined..... gallons.	1,130,769	89,958	600,837	45,908
Varnish..... gallons.	1,138	1,500	2,483	2,239
All other.....	.....	61,274	.....	44,286
Total. ....	.....	\$162,446	.....	\$94,597

"It should be noted that our trade is really much larger (especially in the item of exports to the islands) than is indi-

cated by the above figures. Large quantities of provisions (flour, canned goods, etc.,) are sent to Hong Kong or other ports for transhipment, and are credited to those ports instead of to Manila.

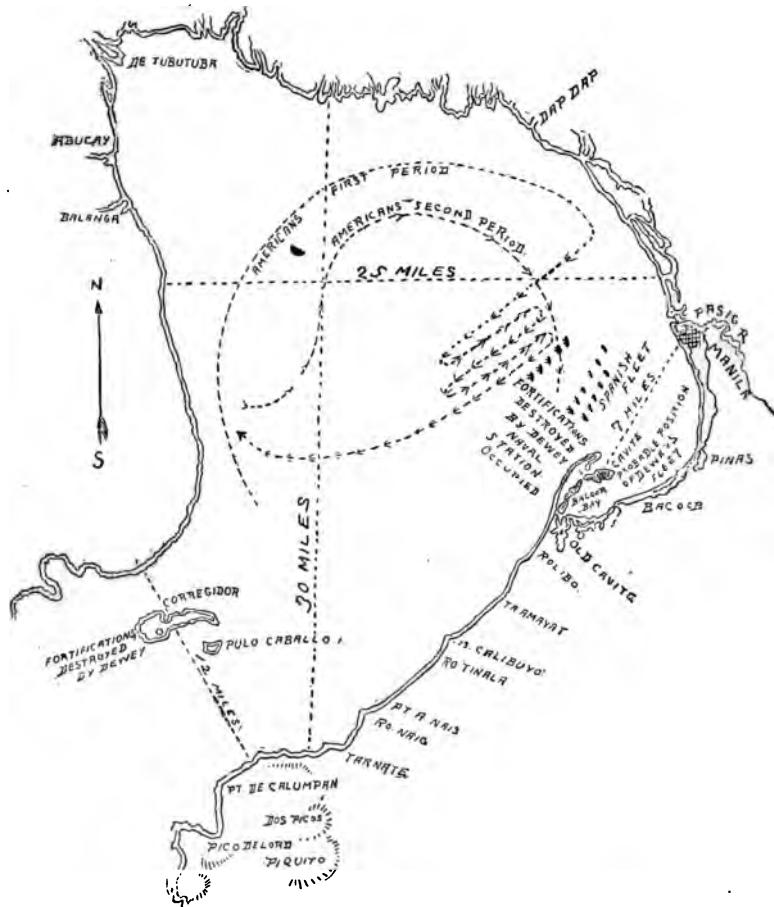
"In a report published in *Highways of Commerce*, Consul Elliott, of Manila, says that there is but one railway in the islands—from Manila to Dagupin—a distance of 123 miles. It is single track, and well built, steel rails being used its entire length, the bridges being of stone or iron and the station buildings substantial. English engines are used, which make forty-five miles per hour. The government assisted in the construction of the road by making valuable concessions of land with right of way its entire length and by guaranteeing 8 per cent. per year upon the stock of the road for a period of ninety-nine years, when it is to become state property. So far, adds the Consul, the road has paid more than 10 per cent. per annum to shareholders.

"Mr. Elliott also states that the *Compania Transatlantica* (Manila-Liverpool) maintains a monthly service to Europe; that there are four lines of steamers to Hong Kong and many local lines plying between Manila and the provinces, the largest having twenty-eight steamers of 25,000 tonnage.

"Consular Reports No. 203 (August, 1897,) quotes from a report published in the *Bulletin de la Societe de Geographie Commerciale* (Paris, 1897, Vol. XIX, No. 4) the following description of the industrial condition of the Philippine Islands:

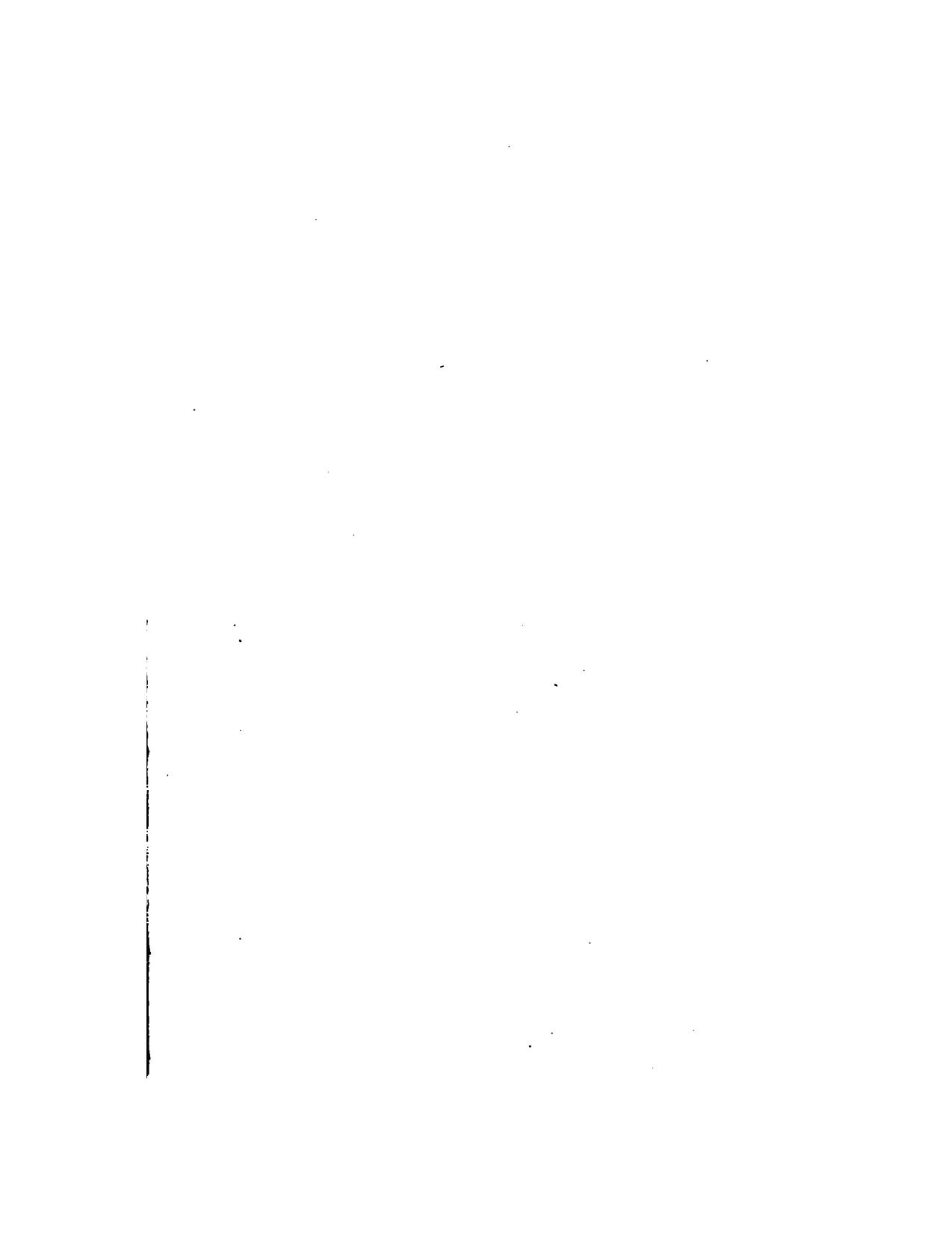
"There are about 25,000 Europeans resident in the islands (the total population is nearly 8,000,000), of course, not counting the troops. Some 12,000 are established in the capital, Manila, the center of the colonial government. English, Spanish and German houses are engaged in trade, advancing money to the natives on their crops. Such business methods involve risks and necessitate large capital in the beginning, but the profits are immense. The land is fertile and productive, and lacks only intelligent cultivation. Abaca (Maynila hemp) is one of the chief sources of wealth of the country. Sugar-cane does not give as satisfactory returns, owing largely

to the ignorance of planters. The average production is 178,-
000,000 kilograms (175,186.96 tons), while that of Cuba is equal
to 720,000,000 kilograms. The sugar goes almost entirely to
Japan, England and the United States. It is of poor quality
and very cheap. The cultivation of tobacco is one of the most
important industries, although it is capable of much greater
development. The native coffee, although not equal to the
Mocha or Bourbon varieties, has a fine aroma. It goes chiefly
to Spain. Cocoa trees grow in abundance, and the oil is used
for lighting houses and streets. The indigo is famous for its
superior qualities. The inhabitants are apathetic to a degree
that is noticeable, even in these countries, where everyone is
averse to exertion. The women have long and slender fingers,
remarkably fine and sensitive, and well adapted to their
work. The hats and cigarette-holders they make and the
articles they embroider are models of delicacy. Cotton-spin-
ning and work in bamboo are among the chief industries."



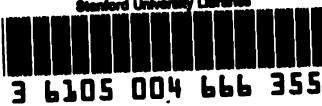
The map shows the harbor of Manila and the positions of the Spanish and American vessels engaged in the great fight on Sunday, May 1.







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